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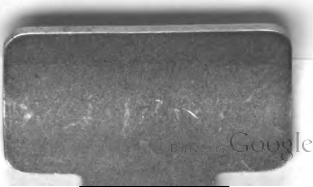
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THE

MIDLAND FLORIST,

AND

SUBURBAN HORTICULTURIST.

CONDUCTED BY

JOHN FREDERICK WOOD, F.H.S.

VOL. VII.

JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1853.

"To study culture, and with artful toil,
To meliorate and tame the stubborn soil;
To give dissimilar, yet fruitful lands,
The grain, or herb, or plant that each demands;
To cherish virtue in an humble state,
And share the joys your bounty may create;
To mark the matchless workings of the power
That shuts within its seed the future flower;
Bids these in form of elegance excel,
In colour these, and those delight the smell;
Sends nature forth, the daughter of the skies,
To dance on earth, and charm all human eyes;
To teach the canvass innocent deceit,
Or lay the landscape on the snowy sheet.—
These, these are arts pursued without a crime,
That leave no stain upon the wing of time."

COWPER.

LONDON:
SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, & CO., STATIONERS' HALL COURT.

1853.

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THE

MIDLAND FLORIST.

Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ON THE CULTURE OF THE SINGLE ANEMONE.

In adding my mite to your very useful periodical, I beg to say that I have been extremely successful with these attractive flowers. It is some years since I was first induced to grow them, from seeing the splendid masses of colour produced in a friend's garden. I commenced by obtaining a dozen heads of seed, when they began to open at the top, or lay loosely on the top of the stalk. I did not save this seed till spring. Had I done so, I should have lost a season; but my beds, which are naturally of a sandy nature, on a rocky subsoil, having been previously dug, and had some very rotten manure buried in them, six inches in depth, immediately after raking them smoothly, the seed was scattered over the surface, in less than three hours after being gathered. I then beat the surface with the back of a spade, and

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covered to the depth of the eighth of an inch, with rich light compost. The young plants speedily made their appearance, and gathered considerable strength before the winter came on. Being perfectly hardy, they needed no protection.

The display that these young seedling plants make in the spring is perfectly amazing, flowering from roots of the smallest size, for when taken up, I have had thousands not larger than an early Warwick pea.

My plan is, when they are in bloom, to eradicate all which are of dingy and obscure colour; and I have been most abundantly rewarded, by having as beautiful an assortment of this flower as anyone can boast of. I may just observe here, that I have on several occasions had double flowers among the seedlings. These I have carefully selected, and am now growing them as named sorts.

I need make no apology for this communication, for it often happens that the success or failure of an operation hinges on some simple cause; and here I consider the immediate sowing of the seed the secret of my success.

H. S. M.

A FEW TULIPS,

AS SEEN IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF NOTTINGHAM, DURING THE BLOOM OF 1852.

Vicar of Radford.—Fourth row feathered rose. On the bed of Mr. Wild, a noble and well marked flower; with the Rev. S. Creswell, a perfect flamed dark rose; with us, neither one nor the other, very middling. The root, however, was very large and overgrown, and as we know the bulb has flowered well, are in hopes of seeing it in better character. The origin of this flower is uncertain.

Bion (Dixon).—A fine feathered rose. Came in good character on several beds.

Salvator Rosa (Brown).—Very scarce in this neighbourhood. It was, however, bloomed in splendid style. It appears to

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be a rather uncertain flower, for the same root has previously been nearly a breeder. It does not increase fast, but as the form is excellent, base pure, and colour and flame undeniable, we have no doubt that it will be a great favourite for years to come.

George Glenny (Zuill).—A delicate flamed byblœmen, of good form and exquisite purity. We like this as well as any Scotch flower we have seen.

Lord Liverpool.—Flamed bizarre. As far as we can judge, this appears to be nothing more than a light, though well-marked, strain of Captain White.

Belvoir Rose.—A stained flamed rose, in the way of Unique. Has been grown in the neighbourhood of Nottingham for at least thirty years. Originally from Belvoir Castle gardens, and if tradition is correct, obtained from thence under rather disreputable circumstances. We have seen it once or twice nearly pure.

Thalia.—A splendid flamed byblœmen. Does not come, perhaps, with quite so much "workmanship" (as some of our florists call it), or marking, as we northerns like, but its well-formed cup, stout petals, and brilliant purity will make it a favourite with every one.

Victory (Sharp).—A tall feathered bizarre, rather creamy on the outside. We do not imagine it will be much esteemed here.

Kate Connor.—Of this variety we bloomed two roots, both flamed, though we are quite sure that they sprung from a perfectly feathered flower. We do not want to make our "*old friend*" angry, but even to please him, we really cannot say they were good, when they were not so; at all events, in the condition they were, we sold one for a pound, and we are told by a friend, in Lancashire, that "in its finest state (feathered) it is a splendid flower, and unlike any of its class." So far so good, and all we can say is, that we shall be delighted to see ours come feathered next year.

Mary Lamb.—A very pretty feathered rose. Came in good character, but certainly too narrow for a first-class flower. We also had one or two flamed, they were impure.

Polydora (Tyso).—A rich bizarre, colour deep golden yellow, with a narrow and intense black feather. Quite a fresh face in this quarter, and likely to be a favourite.

King (Strong).—It has this season flowered in pretty style on several beds. Ours was not up to the mark, yet we hope to see it better. It has been said to be stained, but we have it from good authority in the south, that the best strain is pure. As a contrast on a bed, it is a desirable flower.

Milton (Willmer).—A rich yellow ground, with an intense black feather, a very promising flower, and will doubtless be a favourite.

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Countess of Wilton.—This we had from the neighbourhood of Manchester, some years ago, and with us it is a beautifully-formed flamed byblœmen, extremely pure, and a great favourite. It was very much admired on our bed, this season. We should be glad if some friend would supply us with the raiser's name.

Pilot.—Of this flower there are many strains, some exceedingly heavy, others of medium character. It was done in good style on many beds hereabout. When fine, there are few better in its class.

Lady Clifton.—We notice this flower again, to correct a misstatement which has appeared in a contemporary, and most certainly declare that there was not a flower of this sort at Birmingham. We had but two bulbs and a breeder from the raiser. The broken flowers were numbered 1 and 2; No. 1 did not bloom, No. 2 did, and was admired by all who saw it. A spirited amateur of this neighbourhood offered us for the bulb five pounds, which we accepted, trusting that No. 1 would equal it next year. Mr. Jackson has given its pedigree, which we need not repeat here. *The flower was not cut* from our bed till after our return from Birmingham, when it was sent to Slough, for the opinion of Mr. Turner; and Mr. Jackson positively declares that he did not send a flower. We hope the party alluded to had no improper motive in making so unwarrantable an assertion.

Anastasia.—In its best character a very good rose. Of this there are many inferior breaks. The best has a medium feather, well laid on, and is pure both in the base and stamens. We saw it very good indeed on several beds.

La Belle Narene.—A byblœmen, too long in the cup, but beautifully marked. It is of no use now, owing to being stained.

Plato.—This we think likely to be a favourite. It is a first or second-row feathered bizarre, cup well formed, pure, with a feather in the style of Sir Sidney Smith, or Magnum Bonum.

Meridian (Naylor).—A Lancashire flower, pure and promising. A flamed bizarre. With us, the beam was broad, with much mother colour, but we understand, when in its best character, it is equal to Pompe Funebre.

Prince of Wales.—Grown by the Rev. S. Creswell. A rich feathered byblœmen, extremely dark.

Lord Sandon.—On the bed of Mr. Lymbery, this was a very pleasing black feathered bizarre, said by some to be a Duke of Devonshire. It was shorter than the Duke, and whatever it might be, was certainly a rich and beautiful flower.

Bacchus was here in the feathered state, and was a very pretty rosy byblœmen.

Criterion.—A very beautifully clean flamed byblœmen, shorter in the cup than the generality of the Chellastons, but so good that this strain must please the most fastidious.

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We may just observe here, in closing our remarks, that there are a great many seedlings in the neighbourhood of Nottingham. Mr. Lymbery has a bed of seventy rows, the majority of which will bloom next season; Mr. Frearson, of Ison Green, has some promising flamed roses; and we have purchased between fifty and a hundred varieties, which belonged to the late Samuel Moore, Esq., raised principally from Heroine and other fine sorts. Independent of these, the Rev. S. Creswell and other growers are strong. The consequence is, that all inferior varieties of breeders are being excluded, and we hope to see rapid progress made in this beautiful flower.

JOTTINGS ON FLOWERS AND PLANTS,

MADE DURING A COMMERCIAL TOUR, IN THE SUMMER OF 1852.

BY R. S.

I THINK that very many of your readers will be glad to hear of some beautiful hardy perennials; for though half hardy plants are splendid in the flower borders, still, for those who have not the convenience of frames or greenhouses, to keep this kind of things during winter, a well-assorted collection of hardy plants is most desirable. To tell you the truth, they are great favourites of mine, and I always am wide awake to discover somewhat new in this interesting tribe. Truly I have my favourites amongst them. I do not like tall and rampant growers, neither do I *like* those of weedy character; but I love form, whether in flower or habit, and fragrance is with me a most delightful and desirable quality. I could name a dozen nurseries, and a score or two of private gardens, whose floral treasures I have patiently and admiringly investigated during the past summer, and will tell you and your readers what most took my fancy. You may not always agree with me; still I

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think few, on blooming the plants named, will regret having added them to their collections.

Many splendid dianthuses are grown in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, and on more than one occasion, have been exhibited in beautiful style. What the late Mr. Barron, of Saffron Walden, did for the hollyhock, several amateurs are doing for the sweetwilliam, or Dianthus barbatus. The flowers are now larger, and more round and smooth on the margin. Of these I saw some varieties with crimson or purple grounds and pure white margins, in the way of an auricula; and certainly more beautiful dwarf border plants could hardly be conceived. They may be piped or layered, to perpetuate the varieties, emitting roots freely; but as they produce seed abundantly, new and excellent sorts may be obtained by selecting the best in form and most distinct in colour, and again seeding from them. I was also much pleased with the Dianthus nana, or pumila, as it is sometimes called, a sweet little plant, very compact in habit, and throwing up trusses of rich crimson flowers, with a white centre; for the front of the flower border it is most desirable. Then there is the changeable mule pink, not seen half so often as it deserves to be; it is about six or nine inches in height, with double flowers, at first white, or nearly so, then changing to pink, and thus there are flowers of several shades of colour in bloom together on the same truss. Dianthus fulgens, though single, is remarkable for its brilliant colour, and is certainly a most desirable plant. The individual flowers are large, and light scarlet, and the foliage is narrow; it also is propagated from pipings, layers, and seed. The Double White Dianthus is pretty as a variety, but certainly not so handsome as the Dianthus splendens flore pleno. This has a bushy habit, forming, when well grown, a large head of double dark crimson flowers. I was delighted to find it cultivated in several gardens as a pot plant, and indeed it is a most desirable thing. If you do not grow it, obtain

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it as speedily as possible, for I am certain it will make a good market plant. Dianthus superbus, with its narrow foliage and single white fringed flowers, is delicate and pretty, and powerfully fragrant. I saw this in but few gardens, possibly not being considered sufficiently showy; still it is a modest pretty plant. There were many new ones in the fine collection of herbaceous plants, of Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Son, but not sufficiently in bloom at the period of my visit to say much about them, though I hope, another season, to be able to describe them to you. What a really magnificent plant is Dielytra spectabilis, either in the conservatory or open ground: its finely-cut foliage, its drooping racemes of rich pink and white, render it pre-eminently beautiful. I hope this notice will cause it to be cultivated in the gardens of every one of your readers, for even you tulip and carnation growers should find a small space for so desirable a plant. I must not forget the pretty variegated Linaria cymbalaria; perhaps I ought to class it *amongst* rock plants, in a future notice, but as it happens to stand here amongst my memorandums, I must e'en say something about it. Get this also, by all means, its variegation is so beautiful. The common variety may often be seen on damp and ruinous walls, the white-flowering sort also is very neat, but this is the *ne plus ultra;* its little ivy-formed foliage being finely margined with pure white, and forming the neatest tufts possible. I do not think it is quite so hardy as the other two, but no rockery should be without it. As for pentstemons, they were almost everywhere cultivated in great variety, and no garden of any pretension should be wanting these continuous-flowering plants. Pentstemon Californicus I take to be comparatively worthless; though shrubby, it has not realized the expectations formed of it. Of the Gentianoides division, there are now many: some of them too much alike, however. Buckii, also known as Verplankii, is very desirable. Deep rose tube, with the interior white, forming a fine contrast.

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Salter's Variabilis is very distinct. White and sometimes light creamy rose tube, mottled with darker colour; interior white. M'Ewenii is of much dwarfer habit than the preceding, and, planted in masses, it had a very fine effect. On small circular beds, cut on grass, it had a splendid appearance. These are readily struck from cuttings, and ought to be extensively patronized. Clowesii I thought very good. Here were the colours scarlet and white in fine contrast. This variety had a very good habit, and appeared to flower profusely. The blue ones do not seem of so robust habit as the scarlet and crimson varieties; but azureum, argentum, glandulosum, pulchellum, ovatum, and speciosum are extremely pretty and interesting. The last I saw in first-rate style. It certainly is a nice colour, but rather difficult to keep. I find I have run my pencil through several varieties: amongst them, Cordifolia, for, though interesting, still hardly showy enough in the mixed flower garden. May I hope, in concluding these few observations, that they may prove acceptable? and as I have a considerable number more to talk about, if you will give me room, I will note them in a future communication.

COPPICEANA.

No. XXVI.

In our last, we did not enumerate quite all the varieties of clematis grown here, and will resume our description of some other members of this attractive family.

C. Azurea.—A most beautiful plant, either trained to the rafter of a greenhouse, entwining a trellis, or occupying the face of a south wall. We have had it trained to a stake in our nursery, and certainly a more beautiful hardy climbing plant can scarcely be imagined. In the greenhouse, the flowers are lilac, but out of doors they assume a darker shade. Those who do not already possess it, will do well to apply to

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the nearest nurseryman in their neighbourhood, and we are sure, when it blooms, they will exonerate us of exaggeration.

C. Hendersonii, also known as *C. Hybrida*.—A cross-bred variety, raised by Messrs. Henderson. It does not climb so high as some of the others, but it is a most profuse bloomer. The flowers are produced on long footstalks, having quite a campanulate character, and perfectly distinct; colour very dark purple, with a lighter centre.

Of the Clematis vitacella there are several varieties. We have seen great quantities of seedlings, which produced blues and reds of every shade, with others dingy white. Perhaps the best of this division are,

C. Vitacella Major.—This is a single dark blue, grows strongly, flowers large, and borne in great profusion. No arbour should be without its pretty blooms, intertwining the fragrant honeysuckle.

C. Vitacella Shillingii.—A singular variety, colour somewhere between a dirty white and a dingy pink. In this respect it is not very attractive, yet its singularity will cause it to have admirers.

C. Vitacella Multiplex.—A double purple variety, very pretty, and a fine addition to hardy climbers.

C. Odorata Flore Pleno.—Of this sort we can say very little. The foliage and habit is good, but it does not bloom here; at all events, we have not seen an expanded flower, though we have grown the plant on a pillar for six years.

Hedera.

The ivy is well known as a plant associated with ruins, &c., and is certainly a most beautiful evergreen. There are now numerous varieties. Of variegated sorts, we grow,

Hedera Foliis Argentiis.—Of small foliage, beautifully margined with white. In its habit, the most delicate of all the variegated sorts.

H. Maculata Aurea, or *Ponty's Gold-blotched*.—The leaves of this variety are in many cases strongly marked with yellow, and the tips of the shoots and a few of the leaves are rich cream colour. We think this very likely to make a fine variety.

H. Foliis Aureis. (The Gold-edged Ivy.)—This is really a splendid sort. Very fine specimens are to be seen on the walls of the General Cemetery, at Nottingham, and on the old garden wall at Colwick, near this town. The leaves are larger than either of the preceding varieties, and at a little

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distance might readily be taken for the Gold-edged Holly. It does not root very readily, and therefore is not seen so often as it ought to be.

H. Roergiana.—A striking and very fine sort. The foliage is heart-shaped, very large, and luxuriant. Whoever has an old tree which it is desirable to clothe with verdure, should put a plant of this strong and rapid-growing ivy against it.

H. Taurica.—Small foliage and compact habit, looks a good deal like what we may find plenty of in almost every old hedge bottom.

H. Algeriense.—A very distinct variety. Foliage much lighter green than the other sorts enumerated. An acquisition to the family.

H. Palmata.—The foliage is more divided, in the way of the hand, whence its name. A distinct variety, and very pretty.

H. Canariense —This is known as the Broad-leaved Irish Ivy, and is very extensively planted, though H. Roergiana will certainly be the favourite, when it can be obtained in quantity.

Jasminum.

While we are writing (Dec. 10), we have plants in the open ground, of the

J. Nudiflorum. its rushlike branches being covered with large bright yellow blossoms. It is a first-rate plant for a greenhouse, affording a great quantity of flowers for bouquets, at this season. Against a wall, it is a fine object, and, as we have just observed, even so far north as Nottingham, will bloom as a bush, in the open ground.

J. Pubigerum.—A strong-growing variety, with erect rodlike branches. The foliage is fine, and the flowers yellow.

J. Revolutum —This also bears yellow flowers, but the foliage and stems often have a sickly cast.

J. Officinale.—The well-known and fragrant white jasmine, a most desirable climbing shrub. Of this we have a beautiful plant, with the foliage blotched and variegated with yellow: This, however, requires to be grafted on the common variety, as cuttings, in strong soil, speedily become green.

We may also just notice here, that we lately discovered a variegated branch of the yellow-flowered Jasminum fruticans, each leaf distinctly margined with bright yellow. We hope to fix the sport, by grafting, in the spring.

Currants.

The Premier Currant is certainly a fine red variety, and was shown at Nottingham, during the season, in very good style. The party who raised it has also a very promising seedling

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black currant. The fruit is large and finely flavoured, and it comes into flower at least ten days or a fortnight later than the Naples and Black Grape, thus standing a better chance of escaping early spring frosts than the before-named varieties. We grow twenty-three sorts of this popular and valuable small fruit, and we should be heartily glad to see more attention directed towards it, for few pay the cottager better.

A FEW GOOD PEAS.

As your readers will very soon begin to think of putting in their seeds, I beg to recommend the following varieties as really worthy of their notice. As I have for some years paid particular attention to the pea, and tried most sorts in cultivation, I feel well convinced that for general use there are but few to equal them.

Warner's Early Marrow.—Although there is now such a host of early peas, I do not think this is yet beaten. Height, two feet, pod good for an early pea, a good bearer, and good flavour.

Clark's Ringwood Marrow.—This variety has one drawback, that is, it has a yellow old appearance when fit to gather, but when boiled it is a most beautiful green, and of fine flavour. Height five feet, a very great bearer, pod tolerably well filled with fine large peas. I consider this to be one of the most profitable peas grown.

Thurston's Reliance.—Height seven feet, very large pod, well filled, of good flavour, a great bearer, and altogether a first-rate variety.

Hair's Dwarf Green Mammoth.—Height two feet, well filled, large god, a tolerable bearer, of good flavour. A useful pea for a small garden.

Knight's Dwarf Green Marrow.—This is so well known as to need no description, it being one of our very best late peas. Height two feet, good pod, well filled, of the very finest flavour, and keeps a length of time in bearing.

Knight's Tall White Marrow.—Height seven feet, is in every respect a first-rate pea; the only objection is in the height, so that it is only fit for large gardens.

The above list, though short, is sufficient for any establishment, and contains none but what will give entire satisfaction.

W. S. M. M.

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Part II.

NEW PLANTS.

CYTISUS PURPUREA SALICIFOLIA.—A very great novelty. The foliage narrow, in the way of the willow, whence its specific name.

JUNIPERUS ELEGANTU VARIEGATA.—A very distinctly mottled juniper, promising to be a great acquisition.

THUJA ARTICULATA GLAUCA.—A very singular and distinct arborvitæ. Thin in foliage, and very pretty.

THUJA SINENSE NANA. *(The Dwarf Chinese Arborvitæ.)*—Of erect and pretty habit, a very neat plant.

ILEX NOBELIS.—A splendid dark green holly, something in the way of Ilex altaclarense (Urquart), with broad and striking foliage.

ILEX CYMOSA.—This is a most singular holly, the leaves being about the size and form of the Privet-leaved Phillyrea, perfectly smooth on the edges, without the slightest appearance of prickles. A very great novelty in hardy evergreens.

COTONEASTER THYMIFOLIA MINOR.—The foliage of this very neat cotoneaster is even smaller than the C. thymifolia. It is a very interesting new evergreen, either worked as standards or planted as dwarfs on mounds or rockwork.

VINCA MAJOR ELEGANTISSIMA.—A beautiful new periwinkle, with broad leaves, margined with pure white. A most interesting plant.

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EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

AN AUGUST VISIT TO MR. E. G. HENDERSON'S NURSERY,

WELLINGTON ROAD, ST. JOHN'S WOOD.

THE Wallich Lily (Lilium Wallichianum) has just flowered here, and a truly magnificent thing it is. The blossoms are pure white, and very striking, on account of their large size. One which we measured was seven inches across the mouth, and that on a comparatively small plant, which occupied a three-inch pot last spring. We may, therefore, reasonably expect larger flowers still, from stronger specimens, which, when well bloomed, must produce a grand effect. The house in which this lily is blooming is filled with seedlings of Lilium lancifolium speciosum, which are now in full blossom, and are of themselves well worth a visit. All of them bear close resemblance to L. lancifolium speciosum, as far as colour is concerned, but great diversity exists among them in regard to shape, some having narrow twisted petals, starry and worthless, while the majority are extremely handsome in form and beautiful in colour, and in all respects an improvement on the parent. Few plants produce half so grand a display in the greenhouse or conservatory, at this season, as these Japan lilies, and yet, strange to say, they are far from being common in many parts of the country. We would advise all, therefore, who are interested in gay autumn flowers, to visit the collections of this plant, while in blossom, at Mr. Groom's, or Mr. Henderson's, and then we are sure that this fine lily will meet with that encouragement which it so well

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deserves. One house here is at present devoted to fuchsias, among which are some promising seedlings, one or two of the best of which were stated to have been raised by Mr. Smith, when manager to Mr. Whalley, of Liverpool. The kinds most worthy of mentioning were, Splendidissima, whose flowers are large and showy, the crimson sepals being sufficiently reflexed to show off to advantage the large violet purple corolla; Commodore, a bold flower, of good substance, with a rich plum-coloured corolla, and bright carmine tube and sepals; Gem of the Season, a profuse flowerer, with smooth glossy crimson tube and sepals, and deep purple corolla; Hendersonii, a showy variety, with deep purple semidouble corolla, and bright crimson tube and sepals; and last, but not least, Purple Perfection, a fine bold quite new flower, with beautifully reflexed crimson sepals, and violet purple corolla. This is certainly one of the most desirable of the dark kinds. Among reflexed light sorts, the best was Duchess of Lancaster; and Sidonia (Smith), though not new, is remarkable, on account of its purple corolla. It is something in the way of Venus Victrix, but in all respects a great improvement on that variety. In addition to the above, there were many others, all possessing more or less merit. In one of the frames, we noticed several plants of a very dwarf heliotrope, called H. Voltaireanum nanum. It has the fine deep colour of the Voltaire heliotrope, with good foliage and compact habit, scarcely in any instance rising above six or seven inches in height. It will, therefore, be found very suitable for rockwork, or for planting round the margin of beds filled with some of the taller kinds of heliotrope, &c. By far the most attractive plants in the open ground, at present, are hollyhocks and gladioli. Of the latter, there is a fine collection here, and most of the autumn-blooming kinds are just now in perfection, while the earlier sorts are over, and the bulbs being taken up and

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placed in their winter quarters, an operation which must be performed immediately the foliage has become withered, or most of the varieties are apt to push again, and thereby prevent their flowering so well next year. Those in bloom now are chiefly confined to Gandavensis, and hybrids between it and other high-coloured late sorts. Many of them are very beautiful, and rising from three to five feet in height, they are extremely showy and effective. Their proper place, however, is rather in front of ornamental borders, in the shape of single specimens, or one or two together, than in masses, in beds, in which, though they are very showy, they have a somewhat confused appearance. A narrow border, of some two hundred yards in length, contains a row of Araucaria imbricata, intermixed with dwarf rhododendrons, and behind them is a row of G. Gandavensis and its varieties, which are the admiration of all who see them. The Perpetual or Tree Carnation is another plant which can hardly be too extensively cultivated, for it is easily managed and highly ornamental. All the best varieties are trained against a dwarf wall here, where, owing to their dry position and comparative immunity from frost, they flower from this time to Christmas. In pots they are also very beautiful, and they have been found to force well. Among antirrhinums, one was especially worthy of notice. It is named A. Hendersonii. The tube and ground colour is white, distinctly marked throughout each petal with broad bands of purple, the stripes and ground colour being so evenly balanced that each flower is an exact counterpart of every other on the plant. It is decidedly an acquisition. While among border plants, it may perhaps be well to draw attention to Delphinium Hendersonii, a very fine hybrid, raised, we believe, between D. chilense and D. elatum splendens. Its blossoms are azure blue, large and attractive. It is just now producing a second crop of flowers, from the laterals, the principal display being over. A shrubby yellow œnothera, called

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Splendens, will also make a showy plant in the herbaceous border. Among the newer kinds of verbenas planted out for trial, the following appeared to be the best:—Madame Legras, white, striped with lilac up the middle of each petal; Mirabeau, scarlet, very dwarf; La Camargo, purplish violet, compact and good: Celina Mallet, the best of the new whites, but unequal to some of the older sorts: Orinthey Beauty, warm plum colour, with a white eye, fine in form and showy; Duchess of Kent, one of the best light kinds, having a rosy centre; Juliette, dark velvety crimson, large and attractive; Koh-i-Noor, rosy salmon, and one of the largest-flowered sorts in cultivation; and finally, Eliza Cook, bright rose, with a white centre. These are all good kinds. Phloxes, China asters, and other bedding plants, are just now exceedingly gay, and altogether, open ground plants look better than might be expected, considering the heavy rains to which they have lately been subjected.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

PINK SHOW,

At the house of Mr. T. Oxley, Three Stags' Heads, Pinstone-street, Sheffield.

Silver Lever Hunting Watch, value £7 7s.—Mango, G. Brassington.
Society's Cup.—Mango, H. Bateman.
Young Growers' Prizes—1. Mango, J. Martin. 2. Dr. Hepworth, C. Cotton. 3. Professor, G. Lee. 4. Dr. Hepworth, J. Snidall.
Seedlings.—1. J. Simmonite. 2. Ditto. 3. Baron, H. Barker. 4. J. Simmonite. 5. Ditto.

Purple-laced.
Premier.—Professor, G. Brassington.
1 Mango, S. Pryor
2 Coronation, S. Stead
3 Burgin's Mango, T. Oxley
4 Greensides, S Pryor
5 Professor, H Hides
6 Eliss, C. Cotton
7 Huntsman, S. Pryor
8 Magnificent, H. Barker
9 Prodigal, T. Oxley

Red-laced.
Premier.—Sturge, J. Simmonite
1 Sturge, S. Stead
2 Dr. Hepworth, J. Simmonite
3 Susanna, G. Brassington
4 Mars, H. Hides
5 Lady Antrobus, S. Pryor
6 Dorothy, S. Tomlinson
7 Hope, J. Benn
8 Thirza, H. Barker
9 Favourite, J. Benn

Black and White.
Premier.—Kay's Mary, S. Pryor
1 Lady Frost, W. Powell
2 Kay's Mary, S. Pryor
3 Beauty of Blackburn, J. Simmonite
4 Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, H. Hides
5 Repeal, H. Barker
6 Beauty of Home, G. Brassington
7 Blackeyed Susan, W. Powell
8 Lily, S. Tomlinson
9 Superior, J. Simmonite

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ANALYSIS OF GOOSEBERRIES OF 1852.

I HAVE made the following computation from the *Gooseberry Growers' Register*, for 1852, of twelve of the heaviest berries in each class, weighed in at the different meetings throughout England, the number of prizes each variety has won, the times it weighed 20dwts. and upwards, the heaviest weight it attained, whom the heaviest berry of each sort was grown by, and in what county it was grown; also nine of the heaviest seedlings in each class. The season has been unprecedented for heavy weights. London is registered seventy-three times 30dwts. and upwards, and one (burst) was weighed by Mr. J. Parry, at Taporley, Cheshire, 38dwts. 12grs. Catherina, a yellow berry, appears generally to be the next in weight, to London, being registered 30dwts. and upwards six times, although Snowdrop, a white berry, has reached the extraordinary weight of 34dwts. 5grs.; this fine sort, however, does not appear generally so *heavy* as Catherina. If the analysis is worth a small space in the *Midland Florist*, you can insert it, if you think proper, and I trust it may interest a few of your readers, and offend none.

ROBERT MOORLEY.

Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire.

HEAVIEST BERRY IN EACH CLASS.

	dwt.	gr.
RED.		
London, grown by Mr. John Flower, Stoke, near Stone, Staffordshire	37	7
YELLOW.		
Catherina, grown by Mr. Geo. Webster, Thatto Heath, near St. Helens, Lancashire	32	8
GREEN.		
Telegraph, grown by Mr. Francis Oldfield, Hurdsfield, near Macclesfield, Cheshire	29	4
WHITE.		
Snowdrop, grown by Mr. Joseph Yarwood, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire	34	5

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Names and Colour.	Number of Prizes won.	Number of Times 20dwts.& upwards.	Heaviest Weight.	Whom grown by.	County grown in.
RED.			dwt. gr.		
London	458	431	37 7	J. Flower ..	Staffordshire
Companion	266	195	31 11	B. Kenyon..	Yorkshire
Conquering Hero	176	140	28 9	W. Berry ..	Lancashire
Wonderful.....	131	100	31 0	J. Arnold ..	Lancashire
Slaughterman ..	97	72	30 0	J. Jones	Cheshire
Magnet	60	49	28 0	Mr. Smith ..	Notts.
Lumper	41	25	31 7	Mr. Goodall	Notts.
Dan's Mistake ..	40	30	29 8	S. Barlow ..	Lancashire
Red Robin.....	21	16	28 10	J. Hall	Lancashire
Clayton	13	13	28 18	A. Rhodes ..	Staffordshire
Old England....	10	6	29 2	T. Chesters..	Cheshire
Useful.....	9	9	31 2	W. Walklate	Staffordshire
YELLOW.					
Catherina	273	227	32 8	G. Webster..	Lancashire
Drill	226	171	28 15	J. Daine	Cheshire
Leader	199	132	27 3	R. Oldfield..	Cheshire
Pilot	108	64	29 6	J. Holland ..	Lancashire
Two-to-One	103	71	28 8	M. Arrundale	Lancashire
Peru	101	68	30 0	E. Marsland	Lancashire
Broom Girl	95	48	28 12	F. Oldfield..	Cheshire
Lord Rancliffe ..	57	36	27 12	Mr. Wesley	Notts.
Great Western ..	16	12	26 22	J. Oldfield ..	Cheshire
Lightning	11	5	27 4	F. Oldfield ..	Cheshire
Hue and Cry....	8	7	27 0	T. Nicholas..	Cheshire
Game Cock	2	2	28 14	F. Oldfield ..	Cheshire
GREEN.					
Thumper	262	161	28 13	T. Nicholas..	Cheshire
General	138	78	27 14	W. Gore....	Lancashire
Turnout.....	134	73	26 21	G. Crawford	Cheshire
Overall	96	54	27 6	J. Leicester..	Cheshire
Rough Green....	94	63	27 19	S. Barlow ..	Lancashire
Weathercock....	91	33	28 12	J. Jones	Cheshire
Peacock.....	49	30	27 6	S. Barlow ..	Lancashire
Tom Joiner	43	24	27 11	J. Bailey....	Cheshire
Little Wonder ..	38	10	28 13	F. Oldfield ..	Cheshire
Telegraph	17	12	29 2	F. Oldfield ..	Cheshire
Botherem	12	9	26 14	J. Lockett ..	Lancashire
Peover Ranger ..	3	3	27 6	J. Downs ..	Cheshire
WHITE.					
Freedom	279	203	28 15	J. Barton ..	Warwickshire
Queen of Trumps	194	137	30 0	J. Flower ..	Staffordshire
Snowdrop	160	110	34 5	J. Yarwood..	Cheshire
Lady Leicester ..	114	98	30 4	M. Arrundale	Lancashire
Snowball	101	53	25 12	T. Williams	Cheshire
Coppice Lass....	95	45	26 17	J. Brierley ..	Lancashire
Lady Stanley....	89	55	25 18	T. Pilkington	Lancashire
Tallyho	72	35	26 18	G. Addis....	Staffordshire
White Hare	63	36	26 17	S. Barlow ..	Lancashire
Cossack	42	26	28 18	J. Lawton ..	Lancashire

Nine of the Heaviest Seedlings in each Class.

Names and Colour.	Heaviest Weight.		Whom grown by.	County grown in.
RED.	dwt.	gr.		
Gauntlet	29	2	Mr. Orchard	Notts.
Hanchurch	28	15	J. Biddulph	Staffordshire
———	27	22	J. Brotherton	Cheshire
———	27	14	J. Brotherton	Cheshire
———	27	12	F. Oldfield ..	Cheshire
Burrows's K.	27	5	P. Daine....	Cheshire
Duke of Sutherland	26	18*	J. Biddulph	Staffordshire
Napoleon.....	25	1	J. Hilton ..	Lancashire
———	26	7	J. Brotherton	Cheshire
YELLOW.				
Procter's	26	0	J. Biddulph	Staffordshire
———	24	20	J. Brotherton	Cheshire
Stella	24	12*	J. Leicester..	Cheshire
———	24	0	S. Etchells ..	Cheshire
———	23	23	G. Wilkinson	Cheshire
———	23	20	J. Rhodes ..	Lancashire
Topaz	23	19	J. Elliott....	Staffordshire
———	23	17	W. Gregory	Lancashire
Great Gun	23	17*	R. Swift	Notts.
GREEN.				
———	27	16	J. Brotherton	Cheshire
———	26	7	T. Nichols ..	Cheshire
———	26	16	J. Hilton ..	Lancashire
Lofty	25	4*	F. Oldfield ..	Cheshire
Walnut	24	18*	J. Waldrons	Staffordshire
———	24	14	G. Addis....	Staffordshire
Gower	24	14*	W. Walklate	Staffordshire
Grace Darling.....	24	0	T. Chippendale	Lancashire
———	23	23	P. Webster..	Lancashire
WHITE.				
London City	28	21*	J. Brotherton	Cheshire
———	25	10	J. Baker....	Staffordshire
Crystal Palace.....	25	0*	J. Lockett ..	Lancashire
Barmaid	24	6*	J. Thewless	Yorkshire
Hero of the Nile ..	24	1*	D. Moores ..	Lancashire
———	24	0	J. Brotherton	Cheshire
———	24	0	J. Brotherton	Cheshire
Worcester	23	21	J. Waldron..	Staffordshire
Free Trade	22	19	Mr. Harpham	Notts.

Those marked thus * have been let out this season.

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LESCHENAULTIAS.

BY ALPHA.

What can be more beautiful than a well-grown and well-bloomed blue leschenault? or more delightful than the ever-flowering red kind? These plants are, however, dissimilar in habit, and require somewhat different treatment. The blue sort (L. bilboa) flowers in spring, or early in summer, and its growth should be well matured before winter. Its habit is somewhat straggling, and unless perseveringly stopped while young, compact specimens will not be obtained; but plants intended to flower the following spring should not be stopped later than the beginning of August; and staking will probably be found necessary for the formation of handsome specimens. The red kind (L. formosa) has a tendency to produce flowers at all seasons of the year, and young plants, from which rapid growth is expected, must be divested of these as they appear, otherwise wood will be formed but slowly. Its habit is so compact that stopping will be unnecessary, except in the case of any side branch obtaining a decided lead, which seldom occurs; and a stake for the leading shoot, together with a few supports from this for the side-branches, is all that will be required. With these exceptions, the treatment that suits one will answer for the other.

An essential point towards securing good specimens consists in selecting young plants proper for the purpose. These should be stiff and bushy, in perfect health, and not pot-bound. Another important point is to induce active growth as early in spring as it can be obtained of a healthy character. If the plants are placed near the glass, in a situation where air can be freely admitted on all favourable occasions, a night temperature of about forty-five degrees, allowing it to rise ten or fifteen degrees on clear days, with a free circulation of air, will be safe, after the

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beginning of March; but at this early season, the temperature should be greatly regulated by the amount of light. As soon as growth is apparent, examine the state of the roots, and give a moderate shift, if more space is required. One of the most critical periods of a plant's existence is that immediately after potting; the water is apt to pass off through the fresh soil, the ball where the roots are becomes dry, and the new soil sodden and uninviting to the roots. These dangers are best avoided by having the ball and soil in a properly moist condition when the potting is performed, and maintaining a close moist atmosphere until the plants appear to have struck root into the fresh soil. This prevents rapid evaporation, and the necessity for giving much water at the root. When established in their pots, and growing freely, both varieties require a liberal supply of water at the root; and the atmosphere should be kept moist by sprinkling the floors, &c.; and the plants will be benefited by sprinkling over-head with the syringe, on the afternoons of bright days. As regards temperature, the maximum already mentioned should not be exceeded during the spring months, except in connection with a very free circulation of air; and this must not be allowed to pass over the plants on its entrance into the house, as the leschenaultia is particularly impatient of cold drying currents.

If the plants can be placed in a cold frame, during the summer months, provision will be afforded for promoting active robust growth. A thin shade, for a few hours in the forenoons of bright days, will be beneficial, during June and July; but use this very sparingly, and discontinue it altogether early in August. Water the coal ashes on which the pots may stand frequently during bright weather; sprinkle the plants over-head on the afternoons, and keep the frame close during evening, but raise the lights for the night. Some of the specimens will probably require a second shift early in July; attend to this

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as early as it may be necessary, and avoid large shifts at this season. Towards the end of August, the plants should be considered to have completed their season's growth, and should be prepared for winter, by full exposure to sun and air. Avoid over-watering at the root, and maintain a rather dry atmosphere.

Leschenaultias are very liable to suffer from damp, in winter; they should be placed, therefore, where a rather dry atmosphere can be maintained. When they are watered, it should be done early in the day, and avoid wetting the foliage, especially during damp cloudy weather. At this season, and early in spring, they are very subject to the attacks of a minute aphis, and unless a sharp watch is maintained, beginners will probably not detect it until considerable mischief is effected. Fumigation must be resorted to immediately it is observed. If the specimen plants are considered sufficiently large for flowering, keep them in ordinary greenhouse temperature during spring, otherwise adopt the same treatment this season as recommended for the last; but if good young plants, in five-inch pots, were selected, with which to commence, they should be handsome specimens at the end of the first season's growth. If a second season's growth is decided upon, the blue one will require to be slightly cut back, to prevent it from becoming straggling; and the flowers must be picked off the red kind as they appear. The beauty of the blue sort will be prolonged by shading the plants during bright sunshine. After flowering, cut back the plants sufficiently to secure compact growth, and give a moderate shift, if required, as soon as they start into growth. As regards the red sort, while in flower, if the plants are kept in health, no particular care will be required to prolong its season of beauty, as it will continue in bloom most of the summer and autumn. The flowers should be picked off previous to winter, as, if allowed to remain on the plant, they frequently do much injury, by promoting damp. With proper

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management, the specimens will last several years, but keep up a stock of young plants, and so be provided for the occasional loss of a specimen.

Cuttings, selected of rather firm pieces of the young wood, as early in spring as they can be obtained, planted in sandy peat, covered with a bell-glass, and placed in a bottom heat of about seventy degrees, will root in a few weeks. They should be potted in small pots as soon as sufficiently rooted, and replaced in bottom heat until they have become established. Their treatment, after this, need hardly differ from that recommended for young specimens. Supply them with pot-room as they require it, and aim at obtaining dwarf strong plants.

Rich fibry peat, in the best possible condition as to age, &c. is necessary for the successful culture of the leschenaultia. This should be broken up into pieces about the size of a hazel-nut, and liberally mixed with silver sand, and a sprinkling of clean small potsherds will be useful. A small portion of *mellow* fibry loam may be added with advantage, if the peat is not of a rich nature, but this should not exceed one-sixth of the whole. Use clean porous pots, and ensure perfect drainage by a sufficiency of potsherds properly arranged, and covered with the rough turfy pieces of the soil, to prevent the finer particles being washed down amongst the draining materials.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

RHUBARB.

I SEND descriptions of a few sorts of rhubarb, which have been raised in this neighbourhood. They are all distinct from each other, and from Victoria, and have been selected from many hundreds of seedlings raised these last few years, by different parties. There are several other sorts with strong claims to attention,

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but they are too new to warrant a description at present.

Prince of Wales.—A tall free-growing sort, darker red than Victoria and about as early, with superior flavour. Weight shown, 4lb. 8oz.

Old England.—Green, quite smooth, medium grower, handsome, flavour not first-rate. Weight, 3lb. 11oz.

Swindler.—Pale Green, quite smooth, free grower, handsome, large and distinct, flavour very superior. New. 4lb. 7oz.

White Excellent.—Pale green, short and stout, rather late and not productive, flavour good. Weight, 3lb. 8oz.

Washington.—Green, speckled, season and flavour of Victoria, very productive and distinct. Weight, 4lb. 7oz.

Hercules.—Green, slightly speckled, short and stout, rather late, productive, and good flavour. Weight, 4lb.

Chance.—A brighter red than any of the above, and about a week earlier, productive and handsome, flavour good. Weight, 3lb. 9oz.

Red Rover.—Of a uniform bright red, as early as Mitchell's Albert, but three times as thick; rather too small for exhibition, but as an early rhubarb, it is the largest and handsomest I have seen, and what is remarkable, it never throws up a flower stem. Weight, 2lb. 9oz.

The above weights are taken from the *Rhubarb Book*, and are of stalks cut and shown according to the rules.

GEORGE GEGGIE.

Waterloo Gardens, Bury, Dec. 15, 1852.

CULTIVATION OF THE STRAWBERRY.

[*From the Gardeners' Chronicle.*]

MR. BEACH, the now well-known strawberry grower, of Worton, Isleworth, having astonished everyone, last year, at Chiswick and in the Crystal Palace, with his extremely large fruit, of first-rate flavour, granted me the favour of again seeing his grounds, this year. By the 14th of July, he had picked a great many, but for all that the crop surprised me, more especially the rows running parallel with the lowest part of the ridges. Walking among them was quite impossible,

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without crushing ounces at every step; and I am not certain that Mr. Beach's Queen's are not altogether different from those of others, as I myself have often found my beds sport. Upon this point, however, Mr. Beach is silent. The colour was very fine all round, with no white points. I remarked that Mr. B. is enlarging his pond at the top of his grounds: when finished, it will be from sixty to seventy yards long, twenty to thirty yards wide, and six to eight feet deep, where the beautiful clear soft springs, to the amount of twenty, are continually flowing into it, no doubt from the high grounds above, where the late Sir Joseph Banks lived. The portion of his grounds mentioned by me last year as being under osiers, has been made into ridges, which are now occupied by a fine crop of Ash-leaved kidney potatoes, all ready to dig up; and the moment the potatoes are off, the ridges are to be planted with strawberries, in rows, two feet six inches apart, and one foot six inches asunder in the rows. These new ridges are not made *so high* in the middle by a foot as the old ones, which are three feet high, Mr. B. having found that the rows at the lowest part of the ridge had always produced not only the largest fruit but by far the heaviest crop. An important mistake which I made last year *is, that* of this ground the longest square runs south, consequently the ridges must run east. Mr. Beach's Queen strawberries are all, even the smallest, put into one, two, three, and four-pound punnets, for the gathering of which his women receive a halfpenny a punnet, and even at this rate they make twenty shillings a week, between strawberries and other fruits, such as raspberries, gooseberries, currants, &c. It may be worthy of mention that the pear and apple trees are loaded with fruit, while we on the Surrey side have hardly any. One very important thing which I noticed was, that all his strawberries, except the Queens, were mulched with straw. I asked the reason why the Queens formed an exception. He said that the early ones had shorter fruit stalks, and

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were ripe before the runners covered the ground; but the Queens coming in late, covered the ground with runners by the time the fruit was ripe. Another thing I observed was, that whole ridges of strawberries were lying as it were dead ripe, what many growers would have had gathered days before. This again is a point greatly in favour of colour and flavour; we are generally too fast in picking all sorts of fruits. I hope that not only myself, but all other growers, may benefit by Mr. Beach's experience, which has been acquired at no ordinary amount of expense, coupled with great industry and perseverance.

J. CUTHILL.

Camberwell, July, 1852.

At the meeting at the Horticultural Society's rooms, in Regent-street, on the 7th of December, many interesting collections of pears and chrysanthemums were exhibited. The first prize for pears was taken by Mr. Hill, gardener to R. Sneyd, Esq. Newcastle, Staffordshire. The varieties were Colmar d'Aremberg, Passe Colmar, Beurré Diel, Glout Marceau, Old Crassane, and Beurré Rance. Mr. Snow, gardener to Earl Grey, exhibited some beautiful fruit of the true old Golden Pippin. These had been grown on trees trained to an east wall, from which excellent and fine crops are annually gathered, while from standards in the same garden, the fruit is cankered and bad. This, the editor of the *Gardeners' Chronicle* observes, goes far to prove, that instead of the Golden Pippin wearing out, as some imagine, the fact is, it is really too tender for our climate. We may observe here, that at Sea Grove, near Ryde, Isle of Wight, thirty years ago, we have seen standard trees bear most beautiful fruit. At the same exhibition, a dish of lemons was furnished by T. Lockyer, Esq. of South Wembury House, Plymouth, where they had been grown in the open air. Lemons have been grown in Mr. Lockyer's garden for the last thirty

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years, the chief thing being to protect them from wet, which affects them more than cold. This is effected by covering them in rainy seasons with straw protectors, or glass. Sheep droppings applied to their roots, had kept them in great luxuriance. Messrs. Standish & Noble sent the new evergreen hardy shrub, Skimmia Japonica, covered with hollylike berries. This plant will doubtless be a great acquisition. Haughton Castle currants were sent from Hexham, in Northumberland. These had been protected, but were shown in fine condition. It is a currant we have a very high opinion of. Amongst other noticeable things likely to interest our readers was a fine mallow (Malva umbellata), with large purple flowers, which is stated to make an exceedingly handsome flowering bush.

BELVOIR ROSE AND LADY CLIFTON TULIPS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MIDLAND FLORIST.

SIR,—I have made inquiry, in accordance with your wish, as to the statement made by Slater, of Manchester, on the cover of his last number, viz. "A friend of ours bought a breeder from a gentleman at Derby, under the same name (Belvoir Rose), for 7s. 6d., and was given to understand that it was Lady Clifton," and I find that Mr. Heap, late of Sandbach, now of Congleton, came to this place about the end of October last, and applied to Mr. James Parkins, of the Saddler-gate, for a bulb of Belvoir Rose. Mr. Parkins told Mr. Heap he did not know the flower; he grew a rose tulip, sold to him by Gibbons, of Chellaston, as the Belvoir Rose, but he (Mr. P.) called it a superior strain of Triomphe Royale, and had so won with it at the national show, at Birmingham. The Belvoir Rose was, as he (Mr. P.) understood, a stained flower, and the flower grown by him was quite pure, and he had no doubt was a fine strain—the southern strain, he thought—of Triomphe Royale. After some little chaffering, Mr. Parkins being unwilling to remove a bulb from the ground, Mr. Heap gave 7s. 6d. for a small bulb,—and when in his possession and the bargain was complete, Mr. H. said, "Now I will tell you a secret—the Belvoir Rose is Lady Clifton; Mr. Dixon told me so." Mr. Parkins rejoined, he did not know anything of it, but he did not sell the bulb for Belvoir Rose, he sold it for flamed Triomphe Royale. The publication of this will probably prevent the

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"aliasing" of Lady Clifton before she is *out*, and lead to an explanation from Mr. Dixon, as to his reason for stating Belvoir Rose to be Lady Clifton. I do not know if Mr. Heap is the "*friend*" of Slater's (I am not aware that he has done anything to deserve such an appellation), but you will note there is a slight discrepancy between the above and the statement published by Slater. First, it was not a *breeder*, but a *broken* bulb, that was sold; and secondly, it was not his friend who was "*given to understand*," but Mr. Heap who *gave to understand*, that Belvoir Rose was Lady Clifton. This, however, is the only thing of the kind which has occurred here. I suppose these little eccentricities must be attributed to that obliquity of moral vision which has made Slater so famous.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

E. S. DODWELL.

Derby, 4th Dec. 1852.

Part III.

REVIEWS.

TURNER'S FLORIST, FRUITIST, & GARDEN MISCELLANY. No. 60.

EMBELLISHED with a beautiful coloured plate of two first-rate fuchsias, *Henderson's Duchess of Lancaster* and *Banks's Glory;* the former a light, the latter a dark variety. Mr. G. Smith, of the Tollington-road Nursery, has given some excellent remarks on the cultivation of this favourite plant, besides appending a list of some of the best in each class, which we shall venture to extract, as, from Mr. Smith's well-known experience, it will be a safe guide to purchasers.

DARK.

Glory.—A splendid variety raised by Mr. Banks; tube and sepals bright scarlet, the latter broad and well reflexed; corolla deep violet, bell-shaped; flowers large, plant of fine habit.

Dr. Lindley, also by the same celebrated fuchsia raiser, is a noble variety. Tube and sepals coral red, corolla dark violet purple, flower large, habit good.—The foregoing are new.

Nil Desperandum (Smith).—A fine dark, with red tube and sepals, and corolla of violet purple; of fine form and habit.

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Voltigeur (Banks).—This is rather small, but amply makes up for this deficiency by its beautiful habit, and abundance of flowers. Colour deep red, with violet purple corolla.

Clapton Hero (Batton).—Tube and sepals waxy scarlet. The sepals are too small to make a first-rate show flower, but the corolla is large and fine, purple; this, with good habit and free blooming, makes it a desirable flower.

Don Giovanni (Henderson).—Crimson tube and sepals, corolla rosy purple, flower rather coarse, but of fine habit, and a free bloomer.

LIGHT VARIETIES.

Lady Franklin (Smith).—Tube and sepals pure white, the latter very broad and well reflexed; corolla purplish pink; of fine form and good habit, and a free bloomer. One that will be much sought after.

England's Glory (Harrison).—Tube and sepals white, the latter expanded, but rather narrow and short; tube fine, corolla orange scarlet; a free bloomer, and appears to be a good flower.

Mrs. Patterson (Patterson).—Tube and sepals white, the latter expand well, with corolla of violet purple; of fine habit, and free in growth. This forms a new and distinct variety, being as large as Orion.

Sidonia (Smith).—Tube and sepals blush, well reflexed; corolla violet purple; a free bloomer, with good habit.

Conspicua (Banks).—White tube and sepals, vermillion corolla, large and showy.

Prince Arthur (Nicholls).—Tube and sepals pure white, corolla scarlet, very large.

SELFS.

Alpha (Smith).—Red, with fine form, and sepals well reflexed.

Orion (Smith).—Dark crimson, extra large and fine.

Besides the above useful notice, there are excellent papers on The Pleasures of a Garden—National Floricultural Society, Past, Present, and Future—British Plants—New Dahlias—Memoranda from Kew—The Carnation and Picotee Bloom of 1852, &c. &c. If this periodical has not a great circulation, we are certain that it deserves to have.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

From time to time I have seen notices of new fruits in your periodical, which much interested me. I now want to know your opinion of the Stanwick nectarine; and I should also be

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glad to hear what description of plums Bleeker's Scarlet, Columbia, Huling's Superb, Jefferson, and Reine Claude de Bavay are, whether they are adapted for wall or standard. Any information, as I am about planting, will be very thankfully appreciated. J. B.

[The Stanwick nectarine, we believe, is a failure, at least out of doors. The plums are suitable either for wall, pyramid, or standard. Bleeker's Scarlet is an American fruit, a great bearer, of medium size, and ripens in September. Columbia, also from America, is purple, large, of good flavour, and ripens in September. Huling's Superb is a large, yellowish plum, and ripens beginning of October in this part of the country. Jefferson rivals the Greengage. It is a large yellow plum, first rate, and its season is September. Reine Claude de Bavay ripens beginning of October. It is yellowish green, and of first-rate quality.]

Gyneria Argentea.—What is this hardy grass which I see is so highly spoken about, and where can it be procured? R. T.

[This is the Pampas grass, growing eight or ten feet high, and producing tufts of flowers like the reed, except that they have a beautiful silvery appearance. It will doubtless be a desirable addition to our hardy plants.]

I still see, in reports of shows in the *Midland Florist*, many flowers taking prizes which are of very inferior quality. How is it? Do the judges know no better? W. M.

[We can only say on this matter, that a spirit of inquiry is abroad, and in a few years we hope to see it in a great measure remedied. Florists cannot well discard all their favourites at once, inferior though they may be. The National Carnation and Tulip Shows will, we are sure, do much good. We trust that the suggestion of our esteemed correspondent, R. S., will be carried out, with respect to the pink. Leeds, Manchester, or Sheffield would either of them be a good place to begin a national show of this very pretty and greatly admired flower.]

Lord Rancliffe Polyanthus.—W. D.—John Hufton did not raise it from seed, but bought the stock, with the privilege of attaching his own name to it. Earl Grey, Sir J. C. Hobhouse, and Lord Lincoln, were all raised from seed by Mr. Hufton, and the stock was never parted with.

MY GARDEN.

Having found "my garden" a constant source of ever-increasing gratification, I consider it a pleasing duty to pay that "debt due to floriculture," which is pressing on us all. I trust that, neither in this nor the papers which may follow, I shall be thought to

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be dictating to those who have studied horticultural matters through a long series of years; I do not address them, but rather my younger brethren in the art, to whom, I venture to hope, these few hints may be useful. "Introductions" are usually written last of all, and this certainly is the easiest plan, for then there is not likely to be any great discrepancy; and as I can hardly tell what precise course I may pursue, I will waive farther introductory matter, and proceed forthwith.

One morning, early in December, I took a walk round "my garden;" the night had been stormy, and though the weather was still unsettled, the wind was quite sufficiently drying to make me glad to take every possible advantage of it. The lights were taken off the auriculas, polyanthuses, and carnations, one or two, that appeared to need it, were slightly watered. The operation of watering must, at this time, be very carefully performed, no water being allowed to fall on the heart of the plant; but should such an accident happen, a little blotting paper carefully inserted, would prove an efficacious remedy. Need I remind the readers of the *Midland Florist* that no one can successfully cultivate the auricula, or carnation, or indeed any flower, who is not careful to have in constant use his brush and scissors? not a speck of dirt must be left on the leaves, no greenfly allowed, and all decayed or decaying leaves carefully removed. As my garden is in the neighbourhood of several chimneys, I am sometimes troubled with heavy falls of soot;—to prevent this falling on the plants, the lights are kept on, well tilted, and to help the ventilation, my frames are, on all their sides, provided with sliding doors, about a foot long and four inches deep. These are extremely useful. It is time to be preparing some soil for the top-dressing of the auriculas in February;—a mixture of loamy turves, decayed cow dung, and leaf mould, with a little sheep dung, will be most suitable. The soil for carnations, and pansies in pots, should also receive attention, as often as weather permits.

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My hollyhocks are being wintered in eight-inch pots; nor are these at all too large, eleven-inch would perhaps be better. Although hollyhocks require so much water during the summer, they must be kept dry during the winter; and the more thoroughly to secure this, I have filled my frames with coal ashes, in which the pots are plunged. When the weather is suitable, I shall prepare the ground for planting in February. Any good garden soil will grow the hollyhock, but a rich loam is preferable; in a light sandy soil they will never flourish. The hollyhock is deservedly becoming very generally cultivated, and it may interest our readers to know that an effort is being made to establish a society for its especial encouragement, on the same principle as the national tulip and carnation societies. There is but little doubt of the success of the movement, and the first meeting will probably be held in August next. The following new hollyhocks are very fine, and worthy a place in the most select collection:—Yellow Model (Bircham), novel yellow; Pourpre de Tyre (Bircham), rich dark purple; Chas. Lidgard (Bragg), salmony flesh; Cream of the Valley (Bragg), cream; Joan of Arc (Parsons), silvery blush; Safrano (Parsons), pinkish salmon, with buff guard petals.

To return to "my garden;" the tulip bed is protected from the wet, a very necessary precaution during such weather as we have lately had. Pinks and pansies in beds should be carefully attended to, by securing them from being broken by the wind; and if severe weather sets in, they will be benefited by slight protection.

A careful amateur will find useful employment on a wet day, in his greenhouse, in the examination of dahlia roots, or ranunculuses, in preparing labels, and shades, and all matters of a like kind.

Should the above remarks prove acceptable to the readers of the "*Midland*," I shall hope to meet them again, next month.

J. J. C.

Dec. 14, 1852.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

In accordance with the wishes, repeatedly expressed, of many friends, we have much pleasure in laying before our readers the following descriptive list, kindly prepared for us by Mr. Dodwell. The large measure of success which has been attained by our friend, in the cultivation of these favourite flowers, will be the surest guarantee of the truthfulness of his remarks, and knowing as we do, how useful and delightful well prepared lists are to every grade of cultivators, whether old or young, we are quite sure that a large circle, in addition to those to whose suggestion the list is more immediately due, will join with us in acknowledging the obligation. In a letter, accompanying the communication, our friend says, "I little thought, when I so recently made my bow to the readers of the *Midland Florist*, that I should be so soon again before them; but as I could not succeed in getting our friend, Mr. Turner, to give us at once such a descriptive list as he only could give, I would not refuse to write such as was within the compass of my experience. Your readers will perceive that I have been favoured with many interesting particulars, not before communicated, and I am sure that every one who delights in these flowers will join with me in cordially acknowledging the obligation we are under to the eminent raisers who have so freely given to us the histories of our pets: and I shall be glad if you will mention this in such a form as you may think most fit. As usual, you will find I have spun a yarn. Well, I have only kept up my

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reputation for prosy prolixity,—and as you hold the editorial 'shears,' I shall throw all the responsibility on your shoulders, should any discordant cries reach my ears." We have no doubt the obligation our friend expresses, will be participated in by every one who delights (and who does not?) in these flowers; and we have thought it as well that our readers should for themselves edit this "prosy prolixity."

SCARLET BIZARRES.

Admiral Curzon (Easom).—Commencing alphabetically, this variety is first on my list, as it is first in my regard, and I feel something of the strange dilemma an orator might realize, were he called upon to commence an address with a peroration. The excellencies of the "Admiral" are, however, a very sufficient warrant for a little enthusiasm, and his many victories relieve me from any assumption of its being forced. It is a Derby flower, raised by James Milwood, and by him sold prior to its blooming, to Mr. Easom, whose name it bears. It first bloomed in 1844 (the Coppice show year), and was sent out in 1845. Its origin has been the subject of much dispute, Mr. Milwood invariably stating it was raised from seed taken from his Premier (P.F.), whilst others assign its paternity to Walmsley's William IV. Those who are interested will judge for themselves in the matter; for myself, I see no difficulty in the difference of colour, but a very great one in the extreme dissimilarity of grass and habit existing between the Admiral and Premier. In this respect, the Admiral more nearly resembles William IV. though without any of the "legginess" which characterized that variety. It has a beautifully shaped petal, smooth, gently cupped, and of good substance, though it requires the aid of a card in blooming. (I have often thought our anti-card friends, if there be such *now* in existence, would have some show of reason, did they object to the use of the card for *blooming*, though they have none when they object against it for *exhibition*.) Its colours are rich, bright, well delineated, and strongly contrasted. Its outline is as unbroken as any flower I have ever cultivated, and its form, when skilfully dressed, good. It is of medium size, a good grower *here*, though stated to be delicate in the south. It generally produces abundance of pollen, but bears seed only if carefully impregnated. Having been the *best flower of any class* exhibited here for six successive years, at every exhibition of the Midland Horticultural Society, we have a strong warrant for the favour with which we regard the

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flower, and I believe it would be a treat of no ordinary character to show a Derby man a variety which really did excel the Admiral. When fairly started (during the swelling of the buds), an occasional dose of "*juice*," as Milwood calls manure water, will add to the lustre of its colours, and the size of its flowers; but it must be understood that this is never given to any weakly plants, whether of this or of other varieties; such are always *stopped*, not stimulated, and thus their energies being devoted solely to the young growth, strong healthy layers are generally obtained for another season.

British Hero (Easom).—A flower from the same batch with the Admiral, and doubtless from the same parent. I am informed this is the better flower in the neighbourhood of Halifax—here it is very inferior. The marking is regular, the shape of petal and general form good, but the colours are muddy, and the white flushed; in fact, wanting in *refinement*, and as I prefer a selection, I discarded it two or three seasons since. In habit, it closely resembles the Admiral, but is more vigorous, and a taller grower.

Brutus (Colcutt).—An Oxford flower, which I have seen in fine condition in the south, though here I realized it in that state once only after several years growth, and consequently it has had "discarded" written against it. It is a free grower, of good general form, full-sized, and a full flower, the colours rich, not strongly contrasted, but tolerably regular in their delineation, the petal broad, of fair substance, and about as smooth as the majority. *Here*, it wanted colour, smoothness, and refinement.

Bardolph (May).—Remarkable for its bright and striking colours. Has a good white, and a well-shaped petal. Not quite so smooth as is desirable. It is full, full-sized, and good in form; a good grower, erect in habit. First bloomed in 1847, and was sent out in 1851. Mr. May having left England, I am unable to give any account of its parentage.

Bolingbroke (May). Not so striking, but more refined than the flower just described. Petal broad, marking regular, white good, colours dense and rich. Unfortunately so barren of increase that it appears to be almost lost. First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1850.

Captain Edwards (Summerscales).—Raised by Mr. James Marsden, of Brighouse, Halifax, and sold before blooming to Mr. Summerscales, and two friends. First bloomed in 1846. Origin unknown. A nice lively cheerful flower, rather small, and the marking narrow, but rich and pleasing. The petal is well shaped and smooth. Not a striking grower.

Emperor and *Howard*.—Two of Mr. Puxley's varieties. Both of full size, strongly marked with dense colours, and very showy. I have seen these in fine condition, in the south,

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but here they did not succeed so well. Some time since, it was announced that Mr. Puxley grew one variety only, save those of his own raising, and many admirers of these flowers will be surprised to learn that variety is Willmer's Conquering Hero, an old S.B. generally deficient in colour, and open in its habit of grass, consequently unable to bear the shortest confinement. These varieties partake much of that character, though much more regular and more rich in their colours, and with a stronger habit of growth. We of the midlands and of the north prefer flowers with more colour and refinement than Conquering Hero, but whilst criticising a taste which selects such a flower, we must remember how favourable the climate of South Wales, almost wholly free from frost, always teeming with moisture, is for the development of fine large bold flowers, and how different the appearance of flowers so developed is to that presented by them when their very marrow has been chilled by cold unkindly winds, and their growth incessantly checked by frost. Making this allowance, it may be possible that Mr. Puxley's choice is a wise one, though our preferences would lead to the selection of a Curzon, a Milton, or flowers of similar refinement.

Duke of Sutherland (Elliott).—Raised, *I believe*, in the neighbourhood of Wolverhampton. The date is unknown to me. Grown now for its dense colours, which are well distributed and rich, giving it a striking appearance. The petal is too narrow and wanting in smoothness. Moderately full. The grass has a peculiarly curled habit. A good grower, not large.

Knosthorpe Pet.—Raised by Messrs. Schofield & Son, of Knosthorpe, near Leeds, from Admiral Curzon. First bloomed in 1848. A nice compact flower, but far too small. Colours rich and pleasing, white good, and a nicely-shaped petal. Double the size would make it a very forward flower. A strong grower.

Lord Lewisham.—Raised from an old S.B. called Stourbridge Regulator, by Mr. Samuel Bunn, of West Bromwich. First bloomed in 1848. A high-coloured variety, and one amongst the best, though late in blooming, Full, of fair size, and good in form. The colours very rich and evenly distributed, white sometimes flecked, but generally clear, and then very fine. Petal of medium breadth, very smooth, slightly cupped, and of extra substance. Grass a pale green, approaching to white. Does not grow very freely. Stimulants should be administered very sparingly.

Lord Rancliffe (Holliday).—Bloomed, I believe, first in 1844. I think this flower has been quite sufficiently praised. I have seen it *good* once or twice, and only once or twice, since it came out. It has fine large broad guard petals, but the higher tiers diminish too rapidly, and are too confused. When

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good, the colours are very dark, regular, and well contrasted, the white being pure; but I never saw it so smooth as several other varieties I could name. The grass is small, but prolific in increase.

Lamartine (Kaye).—Sent out in 1851. I have not grown this flower, but from what I saw of it in the south, I think it the best of Mr. Kaye's S.B.s. *Omnium Primus* is much too thin; besides that, its colours are often suffused, and at its best, it is surpassed in richness of colouring by Curzon and some others; and *Excelsior* has too long a petal, and is too loose. Lamartine is something in the way of Curzon, but smaller, and not so rich in appearance; still it is a very pretty flower, having a nicely-shaped petal, and being very regular in its markings. There is too, plenty of colour, a great desideratum in my eyes.

Leader (Hepworth).—Just what a flower ought to be, saving the size, which requires to be doubled. It was a poor grower here, and is now seldom heard of in the midlands. We like its compact habit, and broad gently-cupped petal, but "buttons" wont win against flowers equally compact, fine in colour and habit, and of twice their bulk. *Gameboy* (Rainforth) is another flower of this class, superior to Leader in its brilliancy of colour, but inferior in its habit, though that is very passable. But without size, it was always, as a friend of mine remarks, when he sees a small flower beaten by one of nobler proportions (and it is then that colours are really seen), "putting a *boy* to do a *man's* work;" and being a shy grower, it died out of my collection, without my caring to replace it.

Prince Albert (Hale).—A large full flower, and a free grower, petals moderately broad and smooth, but too long. Colours well distributed, but dark—too brickdusty to please me. It is often shown, and in leading stands, but I have thrown it out of my collection. If my friends think me fastidious, they must blame the Admiral, which is so constant here, that I cannot appreciate a second-rate.

Rembrandt (Bayley).—A seedling of my friend's, not yet sent out. A fine bold full sized flower, very regularly and evenly marked with a rich scarlet and dense bizarre colour. Petal broad and gently cupped. The excessive heat caused it to come a little flushed and less clear in the white and colours last season, than when it first bloomed in 1851, but unless I am mistaken, it will be much esteemed. Grass small, but a good grower.

Ringleader (Marsden).—I have seen but one flower of this variety, and that not matured, therefore I can say but little of it. *As seen*, it was *not* better than Admiral as we constantly have it, but I thought it a very sweet variety, and very gladly added it to my lot. It has a beautifully shaped

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petal, a gently-cupped habit, and plenty of colour regularly distributed; white good, and altogether a very refined flower. My only fear is lest it has not a constitution to stand good growth. I shall try this during the coming season, keeping one-half of my stock quiet, to guard against an untoward result, and will then report further in the matter. First bloomed in 1849. Grass small and narrow, pale in colour.

Sir Robert Peel.—A seedling from Admiral Curzon, raised by Mr. William Broughton, of this town. First bloomed in 1849. Unfortunately an indifferent grower, but a flower of much refinement, and very much to my taste. It is secondary to the Admiral, not having so broad a petal, or so good a form. But it is excellent in its style of marking, very full of colour, clear, and smooth, and in good character would please the most fastidious.

Sir Joseph Paxton (Ely).—Sent out in 1851, and was, I believe, a seedling of that year. From the report I had had of it, our expectations were much excited, and if these were not wholly satisfied, perhaps we must attribute much to the untoward season. I cannot place it nearly on the same level with Curzon, nor is it so refined as the flower just enumerated (Sir Robert Peel), but it is a flower of noble proportions, full of colour, and very commanding, and in favourable seasons I expect to see it very prominent. The petal is smooth and inclined to cup, though a little too long. It does not finish quite so well in the centre as is desirable, yet still I class it amongst the very best. It is a fine grower. Raised from mixed seed.

Splendid (Martin).—My list would be incomplete without this variety, though here it will neither bloom nor grow. Where it will, as I have seen it among my southern friends, it is most delightful. For purity, beautiful shaped petals, and gently cupped habit, it has no superior, though it wants substance, and is excelled in this particular by two or three of those I have enumerated, whilst they equal it in the others. Flowers of this habit, with clear unblemished white, and refined colours, can alone be "first-class," in my opinion, and this it is which leads me to a conclusion rather different to that which has been frequently expressed of Lord Rancliffe.

True Briton (Hepworth).—I do not know the age of this variety, and it is of no consequence to inquire, as it never was among the *aristocracy* of the S.B.s. When not attended to, it is a wretched thing, both serrated and reflexed; when well grown, it is a very showy, strongly marked, and strikingly bold variety, forming a capital object for the back row in the tent, and very often a good flower for the back tier of the stand. It is a good grower, has a fairly-shaped petal, the colours are well distributed, and it is worth the little trouble it requires to make it presentable.

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CRIMSON BIZARRES.

Black Diamond.—Raised by John Haines, Esq. of Tipton, from Ely's William Caxton. First bloomed in 1848. A strikingly fine variety, rich in texture and colours, good white, petal very smooth and well shaped. A most welcome addition to the class. I think it quite equal to Lord Milton, which it much resembles, as brotherlike, it should. A healthy grower.

Count Pauline (Holmes).—A Worcestershire flower, I believe, much in the way of Paul Pry, but more cheerful; worth cultivation for its good white, which, by contrast, brings out the colours of darker flowers, with which it should be grouped. The petal is rather narrow, and the flower has little pretension to a first-class place, yet nevertheless, I think it worth growing. The grass is narrow. A good grower.

Duke of Bedford (Ely).—A good flower, where it will grow, but it has for some time refused to do this in my garden. Petal rather too small, but very smooth, gently cupped, and regularly marked with rich distinct colours. White good. My friend, Mr. Bailey, has some fine seedlings from this variety, which will be much esteemed when they are come-at-able, and which surpass the richness and smoothness of the Duke.

Duncan (May).—A really noble flower. Caliban style, greatly improved. Large size, fine broad petals, and rich bold colouring in profusion, quite enough to satisfy a northern taste. White good and edges smooth. It is a strong grower, and does not need *driving*. One of the finest flowers I ever saw, was a specimen of this variety grown by Mr. Bayley, during the past season. As my Derby friends say, it was *grand*. Raised in 1848, sent out in 1850.

Favourite (Puxley).—Rather pale, good broad petal, and good grower. Not so open or succulent in the grass as the majority of Mr. Puxley's seedlings, and worth growing for its sweet white. Sent out in 1851.

General Monk (Puxley).—Sent out last autumn. Unless I m mistaken, will take a part with the very best. The colours are much in the way of old Rainbow (Cartwright), but the white is much clearer. The colours are regularly distributed over a finely shaped gently-cupped petal, and the whole flower is nicely made up, without confusion. From what I have seen of it, I think it will prove a constant variety. The grass is short, covered with a rich bloom, and appears to be a good doer, but not prolific of increase.

Georgiana (Jaques).—A flower remarkable for its dense colouring, but with little else to recommend it. The guard petals are large and well shaped, but the centre is confused and the petals crude. I have for some time refused to give it a shelter in my collection.

Horsa (Puxley).—Has more colour than Favourite, and what

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there is, is rich and refined, not deep. The petal is broad and of fair substance, the flower full and well crowned, without confusion. Sent out in 1850.

Jenny Lind (Puxley).—The queen of the class. A flower more rich in its colours, and more distinct in its style of marking than any other grown. Added to this, it has a fine broad gently-cupped petal, a good white, a smooth edge, and extra substance. One only drawback exists—it is late. As delineated in the *Florist*, for 1850, the centre petals appear small. I have seen it beautifully crowned, and without any such defect. It is a stout grower, but very impatient of wet during the winter and spring months. Sent out in 1850.

Lord Milton (Ely).—Raised from William Caxton (C.B.), and sent out in 1836. For a long time this flower held an undisputed prominence in this neighbourhood, and in the south, though our northern friends seem scarcely to have participated in this feeling. But if this were the case, it is very certain, the different conclusion was arrived at from other causes than that of differently estimating the value of the properties of a flower, recent experience having shown that no such difference exists. High as was the elevation of "My Lord," his honours are now disputed by several worthy competitors, but he is still deserving of the widest cultivation, despite an inclination to "sport," which age seems in no way to check. In its best character, Lord Milton leaves very little to desire, save it be size, and a few more petals. It has a faultless petal, good clear white, and rich refined colours, distributed in distinct and bold stripes. Habit compact, and gently cupped, good substance, and smooth edges, of course. Grows freely. Crude stimulants should be kept from this, and in fact, from almost every carnation grown.

Nulli Secundus (Summerscales).—Raised by Mr. Jas. Marsden, of Brighouse, and sold to Mr. Summerscales, First bloomed in 1845. Origin unknown. I have not grown this variety, and though I have seen it twice or thrice, it has on neither occasion been in a fair condition for criticism. In colour it much resembles Cartwright's Rainbow; there is plenty of it, and it is well distributed. The petal is well shaped, smooth, and of good substance. *As seen*, it was too flat, but the blooms were faded and past their prime.

Owen Glendower (May).—A flower of full size and fine form. Colours very regular and striking, petal smooth, not very large, but stout in substance. Requires some care in blooming. Grass erect and short. A fine sort, when well done First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1850.

Paul Pry (Wakefield).—Raised in the neighbourhood of Manchester, and one of the oldest, if not the oldest flower in the class, I believe. Very full of colour, when in good character, and still useful to the seedling raiser, being a sure breeder,

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and generally bearing plenty of pollen. It has also a good constitution, a point which should have the constant attention of seedling raisers. Nothing is more tantalizing than to have a batch of seedlings which, having bloomed flowers of the finest order, for colours, refinement, &c. can never afterwards be coaxed into growth, as I can experimentally testify; and to avoid this, the seed-bearing plant should be especially cared for, and healthy growers only selected. It will be advisable to *cross* this variety, as otherwise a great proportion of its progeny will be narrow-petalled and rough, Paul Pry is still shown occasionally, but for form, smoothness and shape of petal, style of marking, and general habit, it cannot be compared to several of its predecessors in this list, and I should think myself *hard run*, if compelled to select it for my stand. Habit of grass short, close jointed, and vigorous.

Queen Victoria (Puxley).—Sent out in 1844 or 5, and for several seasons a spurious Queen was largely distributed. The true variety is a fine and well-formed flower, with very distinct colouring. A little more refinement would more fittingly become the august name it bears, but taken as it is, it is a noble variety, and one amongst the best. Petal broad, smooth, and of good substance. A vigorous grower.

Rainbow (Cartwright).—An old variety, raised at Nottingham. In its earlier years, it grew like a weed, I am told, but after several years of useless coaxing, I have finally discarded it, having failed in getting it to grow at all.

Rainbow (Hastings).—Raised at Oxford. Sent out in 1849. Rather lighter in colours than Paul Pry, otherwise a repeat of that variety, and no better, as I think.

South London (Wood).—Raised at Huntingdon, from mixed seed. First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1851. Much like the same raiser's William IV., but with a bolder petal, and not quite so full of colour. A desirable variety.

Thomas Hewlett (Holliday)—Bloomed, *I believe*, in 1844 or 1845, sent out in 1847. Origin unknown. A flower of refined colours and good white; petal smooth, well shaped, and of good substance. Not so dark in its colours as Lord Milton. Size small, habit of grass short, and an indifferent grower, which will doubtless prevent its ever occupying the place it was at one time expected to fill.

Vivid (Hepworth).—A flower of recent introduction, and a very good one. The colours are light and not strongly contrasted, but rich and regularly distributed. White good; petal broad, smooth, and of fair substance; size medium. Origin unknown.

William Caxton (Ely).—One of the earliest varieties of this celebrated raiser, originated from Paul Pry. Not so full as the parent, but with better formed centre petals, and with a

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better habit, because gently cupped. A useful variety for the seedling raiser unquestionably, as its progeny have proved, but never having had it in a healthy condition, though I have repeatedly "had it in," I have never used it for seed-bearing.

William IV. (Wood).—Raised at Huntingdon, from mixed seed. First bloomed in 1826 or 1827. Closely approximates to the pink and purple class in its colours, of which there are plenty in every petal. It is a large and full flower, and when well grown, still useful as a contrast in the stand and on the home stage. Very peculiar for its pale green and narrow grass. Growth spindling, but very free and prolific of increase. Enjoys generous treatment.

PINK AND PURPLE BIZARRES.

Falconbridge (May).—The best flower of its class. Large in size, of good form, smooth, and good substance. Colours rich, regularly distributed, and strongly contrasted. White very pure. First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1851. A good grower.

Henry Kirke White (Taylor).—Raised at Nottingham, in 1848, from an unnamed pink and purple seedling, originally from Mango. A fine smooth well-marked flower, and, wherever it will grow, very desirable, but it will not do this with me.

Lady of the Lake (Hale).—A variety which would scarcely be likely to lead to very desperate tilting, even amongst the most chivalrous knights of old or modern times, yet useful, because it is invariably a *good doer*, and always yields a crop of well-formed large flowers, though not distinguished for its regularity or richness of colouring. Like actresses of a certain age, it is *at home* in the back row.

Princess Royal (Sealey).—An old variety, and in my eyes very worthless. Large, full, and full of colour, such as it is, but altogether without refinement. A "burster," and some years since burst out of my collection, never to return.

Princess (Taylor).—By the same raiser as Kirke White, and from the same parent. First bloomed in 1847. Much the better flower, as it is constant and a fair grower. Has a well shaped broad petal continued to the crown; plenty of colour of a peculiar pink or salmon tint, well contrasted with the bizarre, and regular in its delineation. White clear, substance fair, with smooth edges. The habit is not so good as Kirke White, as the petal is flat, not gently cupped. Much inclined to sport to a purple flake.

Prince Albert (Puxley).—Sent out, I believe, in 1840. One of the earliest of Mr. Puxley's flowers, and still fine. An illustration of the sportiveness of this tribe of flowers, as it is grown and shown as a scarlet bizarre, a crimson bizarre, and a pink and purple. I have also seen it as a purple flake.

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"H.S.M." tells us he cannot "fancy this sort for an exhibition," but recommends it as a "bold flower for the border." In common with the readers of the *Midland Florist*, I am always glad to con over the jottings of my *veiled* friend, but in this instance I must tell him he is mistaken, for the exhibition can scarcely have a more useful flower, nor is any very peculiar treatment needed. Being a full flower, the first bloom is apt to be crowded, and sometimes coarse, but this is easily remedied by removing it when just opening, by which the side blooms are increased in size, without any loss of richness or refinement. The petal is short, stout, well shaped, and smooth; the colours well distributed, and habit compact. Not cupped. Grass broad, curled, and a strong grower, though showing signs of age.

Sarah Payne (Ward).—Well named after a lady, for it is indeed delicacy itself. For refined texture and colour it leaves nothing to be desired. Well done, and at its best, it would grace the finest stand of flowers the imagination could paint. The petal is of medium breadth, very smooth, and gently cupped; Colours delicate, sometimes deficient of bizarre, but always rich; white exquisite. Rather a delicate grower. Originated at Woolwich, by its raiser, a well-known veteran florist, from Puxley's Prince Albert, crossed with Count Pauline. First bloomed in 1845, sent out in 1847.

Twyford Perfection (Young).—A useful variety, but *nowhere* with the preceding. Petal well shaped, stout, and smooth; colours regularly distributed and distinct; not so rich in its apearance as others of this class; white clear; a strong grower.

[To be continued.]

A FEW REMARKS ON THE NATIONAL TULIP SCHEDULE OF 1853.

BEFORE this reaches our readers, we trust that those who are cultivators of the tulip, and who intend to exhibit, have provided themselves with the list of prizes to be competed for on the 25th of May, 1853. It is somewhat different from those which have preceded it, and whether satisfactory or not, still we trust that the great body of florists will give the committee credit for endeavouring to afford them abundant opportunity for competition. In allowing ten, eight,

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and six pounds for the first, second, and third best twelve dissimilar blooms, it was thought adviseable to encourage variety; and for these liberal prizes we have no doubt there will be a numerous and spirited competition. We want to see something more than the constant Charles X., Captain White, Heroine, and flamed Royal, with Black Bagot and Queen Charlotte,—these will have abundant opportunity of signalizing themselves in class C. Should it happen that parties who enter in class A. cannot cut two of a sort first-rate, class B. will give them a chance of gaining the silver cup, so liberally presented by our secretary, S. R. P. Shilton, Esq. Here the only requisite is, that the flowers shall be four of each class, bizarre, byblœmen, and rose, the competitors putting in those which they are strongest in, whether flamed or feathered. The Nottingham Horticultural Society's silver cup is for six flowers, one of each class, and here again we expect a formidable array, six being a number that most can produce; and as it often happens that the respective merits of stands are very evenly balanced, the committee have wisely and thoughtfully allowed the difference between each stand to be only ten shillings.

For single specimens, in class D. twenty shillings each will be given. At Birmingham, it was for the three best feathered flowers, but we have added *flames* to this class, being assured that they are equally worthy of reward.

In class E. the lovers of class showing will have abundant scope; and here small growers will have a good chance, as well as in class C. We like also the eighth rule (which bears on this class), by which the same flower, but not belonging to the same exhibiter, under certain conditions there specified, may be placed twice.

The classes for rectified seedlings, and that for seedling breeders, are also a good feature. We think these ought to be encouraged; for though a seedling may not *break well*, still form and purity should be

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patronized; and those who devote so much care and patience in endeavouring to improve the present breed, ought to have a reward, and this is first done by giving prizes for breeders.

As for the conditions to be observed by exhibiters, we think the plan of showing in class A. with two stands of six each, a good one, marking the best, so that if unsuccessful, it may be removed to class C. But we think each exhibiter should attach his number to each flower in the stand, as they may, if unsuccessful, be shown in the classes. This will easily be done under the name of the variety, when written on the label which the committee will provide. We throw out this hint, because it will prevent mistakes, and unless adopted, where so large an assemblage of flowers is brought together, confusion might ensue.

Another rule, that of charging one penny each for blooms, is absolutely necessary, to check, if possible, the indiscriminate introduction of flowers for "THE SAKE OF A CHANCE," and the consequent very heavy addition to the labours of the judges, and the extra accommodation required. We well know the trouble and anxiety to the judges, of going through so large a number of flowers; but we fondly hope, from the names of the gentlemen selected for this important trust, that an equitable and satisfactory award will be made.

We trust that so laudable an institution as the "Great National Tulip Society," will meet with encouragement from all classes of florists. Subscription books are now ready, and will be forwarded to any friends who will undertake to collect in their neighbourhoods. "Union is strength;" and any assistance towards carrying out the exhibition will be gratefully appreciated, and the compliment returned at any future period, by the Nottingham amateurs and florists.

Of course, very many exhibiters will reach Nottingham over-night, and generally the first question is, where shall we be comfortable? A hint is often

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valuable. Florists will be at home at Mr. Wasnidge's, Crown Inn, Long-row; Mr. Flower's, the White Swan, Beast-market-hill; and Mr. John Hardy's, Maypole, Long-row; and within a very short distance of the place of exhibition, as at present arranged.

A FEW REMARKS ON SEEDLING TULIPS.

PERHAPS at no period in modern times has the tulip had so many admirers as in the present day. Our monster meetings and national displays are doing much in every way to dispel the long-existing prejudices which have led different localities to assume fancied diversity of opinion. These are now satisfactorily merging into one common standard, alike acknowledged by metropolitan, northern, and midland cultivators; and an almost unanimous opinion has proclaimed the differences nominal.

We can now happily behold man meeting fellow-man in perfect unanimity, after the conflict at the exhibition has been decided; neither above acknowledging the superiority of his more fortunate rival, nor yet restrained from admiring his victorious productions. Yes; it is of the tulip I write, by some designated the Queen of the Garden, by others the Queen of Beauties,—both appropriate names. Her matchless colours and stately growth seem amply to supply the want of fragrance; nor does its inconstancy render it a whit the less attractive. On the contrary, the intense ardour with which the true connoisseur inspects the *gems* of his collection is heightened, when perhaps only a limited number of noble specimens are seen peering their heads among the ranks of his collection.

To the superficial observer, who would contemptuously designate the tulip a gaudy scentless flower, just expanding to our gaze and soon receding from our view, to him who would thus disparagingly speak of

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our *venerated queen*, we would say, go and visit the bed of some enthusiastic cultivator—let him point out some stately specimens in their full blaze of beauty and unsullied purity, turn his attention to some of superlative form, ask his opinion of some *unique* specimen of the feathered class, whose delicate pencillings and brilliant tints seem to defy artistic excellence to imitate, bid him inspect some of the gorgeous flamed specimens that now abound in our collections, and if his contempt of this noble flower be not changed into admiration, we can only set him down as one of those apathetic beings who are incapable of appreciating the beautiful works of creation.

I will now close with a few observations on tulip seed. In the year 1848, I saved an assortment of seed from the following varieties:—

SAVED FROM.	FERTILIZED BY.
Triomphe Royale	Ne plus ultra.
Cerise Belleforme	Arlette.
Charlotte Cenotaph	Lawrence's Friend.
Old Dutch Catafalque	Polyphemus.
Violet Alexander	Lawrence's Friend.

Unavoidable circumstances prevented my sowing the seeds at the usual time, and they were thrown aside as useless, supposing they would not vegetate. In 1851 they again came under my notice, when I sowed them, but certainly as a *forlorn hope*, and without any reasonable expectation of success, as the chance of any favourable result appeared so remote, that I considered it useless labour. To the best of my recollection, they were sown in seed pans, about the latter end of February, in soil sufficiently damp for the purpose of vegetation, but still comparatively dry. After remaining in this state for about a fortnight, the moisture was gradually increased, and they were effectually shaded from frost and heavy rains. In about two months from the time of sowing, some of the seeds were accidentally uncovered, and the germ appeared plump and full, as if vegetating

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This inspired me with hope, and my attention was redoubled. Soon after, I was gratified with beholding a solitary seedling protruding its onionlike foliage from beneath the soil; others followed in succession, yet at irregular intervals, and I ultimately obtained a goodly quantity. I have thus had practical demonstration that the seed of tulips will vegetate for three or four years, with a little extra attention until it comes up. I attribute my success in no small degree to the moisture being gradually increased from the time of sowing. The plants are now removed from the seed pans into the open ground, and I look with interest to ascertain whether the age of the seed may not have produced a debilitated constitution. They appeared tolerably healthy the first season. Another year will probably more fully develope their habit of growth, when you shall hear further on the subject.

ALPHA.

FORCING STRAWBERRIES, WITH A FEW REMARKS ON THEIR CULTIVATION.

WHILE the pine and the grape can only be had by those *possessed* of a princely fortune, this not less beautiful and delicious fruit may be had by those *possessed* only of small means. Strawberries are generally forced either in early peach-houses or vineries, but for those who have not such structures, I shall recommend a frame or pit, say of the following dimensions:—Three feet six inches high at the back, two feet six inches high in front, walls four inches and a half thick, width five feet, and length twenty feet, with a flue running round it, on which let a layer of coal ashes be placed, so as to allow the plants to stand within six inches of the glass. Such a structure might be put up at a very trifling cost, and when done with for strawberries, would be found very useful for a crop of cucumbers or melons, and

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in the autumn, as a propagating pit. As regards the management, the first and principal point to be attended to is to have good strong plants, for without this, no amount of care or attention will ensure a crop. As soon as the runners begin the joint of the future plant, and have pushed a root or two, I fill the pots (thirty-twos, or quarts) with suitable soil. I prefer for this purpose good maiden loam, mixed with one-third rotten manure. The pots being well filled, and having plenty of drainage, are placed about the bed, two or three to each plant. Then place *one* runner in each pot, and insert a small peg, to fasten it. This done, let all the remaining runners be taken from the parent plant, so that it may not have any more to support than the runners in the pots, and the crop of fruit. Let the pots be well watered with weak liquid manure, whenever they become dry. The pots may remain on the bed for two months, by which time they will be filled by fine well-rooted plants. After which, they may be separated from the old plants, and the pots arranged in beds, during autumn, care being taken that they are not allowed to become dry, and all runners taken off as they appear. When the weather becomes cold, they may either be placed in cold frames, or the pots laid on their sides, in ashes, to keep the roots from being frozen and the crowns of the plants from damp. We will suppose the forcing to begin in February: the plants ought to be in the pit a month at least before that time. During the first fortnight, air ought to be freely admitted, after which, it should be gradually withheld, except in bright weather. To commence forcing, begin by putting on slight fires by night, for the first week, not allowing the thermometer to exceed fifty degrees; after which, the heat may be gradually increased to fifty-five degrees, by the time the fruit is set. Before the plants are in bloom, it will be well to syringe them with tepid water, once or twice a week. The plants should also be plentifully supplied with *warm* water, as by using

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cold the crop of fruit would be very much endangered. Air should be given on all favourable opportunities, carefully avoiding all cutting winds and cold draughts. During the time the plants are in bloom no water should be given over head. After the fruit is fairly set, the temperature may be gradually increased to from sixty to sixty-five degrees, and the plants always watered with liquid manure up to the time of colouring. But this liquor must not be strong (a serious drawback in its use, through want of care). If the manure is strong, put a pint to a gallon of water; this will do far more good than two or three waterings with strong stuff during the whole time of forcing. As soon as the colouring commences, the manure must be discontinued altogether, using clear water. During the time of forcing, all runners must be carefully removed from the plants, as they appear; and should greenfly make its appearance, let a fumigation be given, so as to keep clean; but be sure to begin as soon as you detect it. By the above management, the crop would be ripe in April. As soon as the crop is gathered, the frame might be again filled; these again would be off in sufficient time to admit of ripening a third crop before the outdoor ones are ready. I may just remark here, that the plants of Kean's Seeding and Black Prince, that have been forced, are very fine for turning out for the next summer's crop. I always make a fresh plantation every year, of the plants. Selecting a good piece of ground, in February, I dig and manure it well, and sow it with onions (a queer mixture), two feet apart, in drills, so that there is plenty of space for the plants, when done with. After they are planted out, they are kept clear of all runners, and as the onions are out of the way by August, they have a chance of making very fine plants. I may also remark here, that I always mulch my plants with the sweepings of lawns, which keeps the fruit clean and the soil from becoming baked. As regards the best varieties to force, I must give the preference to Kean's Seedling,

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as it is a very fine handsome fruit, of good flavour, and a sure setter. Cuthill's Black Prince is also an excellent sort, particularly for autumn forcing, but I think at times rather a shy setter, especially when placed too thick together The British Queen every body knows to be in every respect a first-rate variety. This should always be grown for the last crop. Should the above remarks be deemed worthy of insertion, I may perhaps at some future time make a few observations on the culture of strawberries in the open air.

W. S. M. M.

CULTIVATION OF THE POLYANTHUS.

BY MR. S. HAMMOND, RADFORD, NEAR NOTTINGHAM.

[Continued from vol. 6, p. 332.]

THE compost previously recommended for top-dressing should now be removed to a dry shed, spread out thinly, and have a moderate dressing of lime,—two or three handsful to a strike will be sufficient. After lying a fortnight, it may be run through a coarse riddle, and will then be fit for use. The latter end of this month, the pots should be cleared of the moss, and the soil taken out two inches deep, being careful at the same time not to disturb the fibres. Strip off all decayed leaves close to the stem, and fill up to the same height as before, pressing the compost firmly to the plant. It will be better to use fresh moss, sprinkled with lime instead of soot. The pots may be kept in the same place till towards the end of March, when they should be removed to such situation as before recommended. It will be necessary, after top-dressing, to guard more particularly against frost and cutting winds. I use small glasses, tilted two inches above the surface of the soil. When the flower stems are somewhat advanced, the pips should be thinned out to seven or eight. If more are suffered to bloom, they will be much smaller, and every

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way inferior. Strict attention must be paid to watering, if the weather should prove dry and hot, it will be of great advantage, if a little lime be put into the pan, and the water always stirred before using it. When the blooms are expanded, care must be taken to prevent wet lodging upon them, which would in a short time destroy the beautiful lustre peculiar to this class, when well grown and protected. A vigilant watch must be kept for snails and other vermin. I have found a large insect of the spider species very destructive; the bite of this pest causes a pip to turn black, as though burnt. Like the snail, it usually feeds at night. Those plants grown in the border will require similar treatment, by clearing away the moss, and stirring the surface of the soil with a table fork, and dressing with fresh compost. It is not necessary to take soil out, but merely add where it is found to shrink from the plants, and finish with a level surface. Apply fresh moss, and keep on the glasses till past flowering. Carefully shade from hot sun. Whether grown in pots or on the border, they should not be exposed to the influence of the sun later than nine o'clock, from the beginning of April to the end of October. Having provided for them up to the all-important point, I must now beg leave to retire, with my sincere thanks for your kind attention.

Alfreton-road, Jan. 17th, 1853.

CULTIVATION OF THE CAMPANULA PYRAMIDALIS.

Amid the rage for novelties in trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennial plants, I think we sometimes overlook the claims of some really splendid flowers, which do not get that attention paid to them which their merits deserve. I purpose then, introducing to your readers a plant of this sort, which I have cultivated most successfully, and certainly have had specimens with spikes of hundreds of flowers, reaching at least

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six feet from the pot. I allude to the Pyramidal Bell-flower (Campanula pyramidalis). In order to get plants of this description, I divide the roots early in the autumn, selecting the stoutest for this purpose. These I pot in pint pots, using a compost of maiden loam, decayed melon bed manure, and sharp river sand. I place the roots about an inch below the surface, the pots are then plunged to the rims in sawdust, in a cold frame, and kept close for a week or ten days. I then give them a good soak of soft water and allow the light to be tilted; after which it is removed altogether, except during wet or severe weather. When the plants commence growing, this is encouraged as much as possible till the pots are filled with fibres, when they are repotted into two-quarts, with soil as rich as possible, and plunged in an east border, in sand, having a wooden framework, on which mats can be stretched, to prevent the effects of severe weather. Should any spindle for bloom, they are removed, my object being to get plants as strong as possible. Early in the succeeding spring, I repot, in halfpeck or peck pots, according to the strength of the plants. They are then placed in a cool greenhouse or conservatory, watered freely, and occasionally with liquid manure, not too strong. As soon as they throw up flowering stems, I select the strongest, and remove the others, so as to throw all the energies of the plant into one spike. Little more attention is needed, and really the magnificent plants I have had by this mode of treatment, almost exceed belief. During the period of bloom, my employer has several plants in his entrance-hall, for which they are particularly adapted, and they are the admiration of every one who sees them. With a little protection of the blossoms, they produce a fine effect in the open air: but unfortunately they are often spoiled, by allowing three or four stems to a plant.

There is a white-flowering variety, which also makes a first-rate hardy plant for an exhibition, but it will not produce spikes like the blue one.

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If this brief notice will induce its more general culture, I shall be glad, for I am certain no perennial will better repay the trouble bestowed.

W. M.

Pembroke.

JOTTINGS ON FLOWERS AND PLANTS,

MADE DURING A COMMERCIAL TOUR, IN THE SUMMER OF 1852.

BY R. S.

WELL I am glad, very glad, to find that you approve of my descriptions, and that you think your readers do so too. As that is the case, I shall keep a sharp look-out for you, during my next summer's journeys. By the by, what do you think of the potentillas? I am quite sure considerable progress has been made with them, during the past ten years, and I was much delighted with the brilliant colours and better form which this family of plants appear to have acquired. I saw several very good collections, but amongst them all, as a pretty prostrate plant, producing through a long period an immense quantity of flowers, I certainly was much gratified with Potentilla Tonguii. In every locality it was beautiful, whether on the front of a border or perched on rockwork, for which purpose it appears very suitable. Its small buff flowers, tinged or spotted at the base with dark crimson, had a very pretty effect. I liked it much better than some of the larger sorts. I saw some good ones, however, which will be, I am quite sure, desirable border plants, at a namesake of yours, at Welton, in Yorkshire. I was not so fond of the delphiniums which were pointed out to me, they having the appearance of different forms of sinensis, a packet of which seed will turn out twenty different forms and colours; but, as I stated before, the potentillas will do. Woodsii was semi-double, and very brilliant and pretty orange scarlet. Potentilla lutea, yellow,

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very large, with a more rigid habit. Picturata was novel and pretty; yellow, with dark blotch on the petals. But some better way of growing these plants should be adopted. In one gentleman's garden, each variety was upheld by a small wire guard, which encircled the plant, keeping the flower stems closer together, and consequently forming a large and compact head. They looked much better than those which are allowed to straggle about in all directions. Perhaps one of the best yet is Hopwoodiana. Though raised now some years, it is not seen so often as it ought to be. Amongst the flaunting yellows and glaring crimsons, the soft and beautiful character of this pretty sort charmed me much; its ground colour of creamy white, suffused with rose, added to its nicely-formed and abundant flowers, must, I am sure, make it a general favourite. In more than half-a-dozen places, Menziesii was grown well. Its large orange scarlet flowers, often coming deeper on the margin, giving them an edged appearance, were peculiarly striking. Then there is Bainseana, dark crimson; with many seedlings much in the same way, varying in size and intensity of colour. The best were at Mr. W. Willison's, of Whitby, who has apparently paid much attention to seeding from the best varieties only. Here certainly I saw some with the largest blossom which yet had come under my observation. Mr. W. has several seedlings with more or less an inclination to be double. From this gentleman's exertions, I certainly expect great improvement to be made. At another place, I had Smoutii pointed out to me. As a striped variety, it was certainly curious, the ground colour being pale buff, with very narrow brown lines; but I do not think this variety will ever become popular, having a heavy dingy appearance. Antwerpiensis is beautiful, being large and rich orange. Garneriana too, is a very nice thing. The flowers are not individually large, but produced abundantly, and are creamy straw colour, with a blotch of crimson at the base of the petals. I

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think you have alluded to this variety before, in your pages, but as it struck me to be very good and distinct, it will be adviseable to bring it again before your readers. In one garden, I saw a large batch of seedlings, raised from Tonguii, crossed with Menziesii, the object being to get the habit of the female, with the large flowers of the male parent, the experimentalist, a gentleman of much enthusiasm in floriculture, informing me that he was anxious to get some fine seedlings to adorn an extensive rockery, which he had just erected. He pointed out to me the Double Tormentil as well suited to this purpose. It is nearly allied to the potentillas, but is wholly prostrate, rooting at its joints, and bearing very double yellow flowers, the size of a large pea. I also saw here, the Variegated Tormentil, the foliage being strongly marked with creamy white, and the flowers single bright yellow; it is a very interesting rock plant. I did not think much of some seedlings, let out by the Messrs. Pope, seven or eight years ago. They were singular-looking, truly, but too much alike, and hardly striking enough, in these progressive days. Plantii, brilliant crimson or scarlet, was fine. Fintlemanii, good in colour, but showed its green calyx between the lower part of the petals. Formosa and atrosanguinea I mention here because, though kept in collections, they are in a great measure superseded; still, I like the former for its distinctness. I had much conversation with the different parties I visited, on the principle and system of hybridizing, and found that more care was taken in this operation than I gave them credit for. It appears they remove the anthers from the flower intended to be operated on, at a very early period in the morning, choosing days which are likely to be fine; then, about noon, they select flowers with the farina in a proper state, and dust the stigmas of the flower from which the anthers had been removed in the morning. On one plant of Insignis, I saw several pieces of different-coloured silk tied. On inquiry, I found this was to denote the colour of the

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male parent. I thought the idea a good one, and noted it accordingly. For instance, there was scarlet for Plantii, and crimson for Pennonii; white indicated that it was fertilized by Hopwoodiana, and brown for Tonguii, and so on. I also learnt that the hybridized seed would be kept carefully separate, in order to ascertain the effect of the pollen, and I am promised an account of the result of these experiments, which I shall most gladly forward to you.

Part II.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

KATE CONNOR TULIP.

It is self-evident that the truth will never be arrived at by the means at present applied for that purpose, viz. of ascertaining whether the variety which Mr. Lightbody possesses in great force is the same as that which Mr. Slater considers the true Kate Connor. Now what we require is something more than mere assertion, viz. ocular demonstration. I had the pleasure of an interview with Mr. Lightbody, at Falkirk, last blooming season, and I there learnt from Mr. L. that he had not Kate Connor under *that name*, but considered Princess Maude to be the same. After such a statement, the only course which can be adopted to arrive at the truth, in my opinion, as to whether they are one and the same, is for Mr. Lightbody and Mr. Slater to agree upon some one as a judge, to whom each, on a given day, to be hereafter fixed upon, should undertake to furnish, say three blooms in a broken state, and three in an unbroken state, of the variety they each consider the *true* Kate Connor; also three of each, in a broken and unbroken state, of the true Princess Maude; and that the decision of the judge shall be final. In fact, if they are one and the same, there will be no difficulty in arriving at the truth; if not, the great difference which Mr. Slater says exists between the two will easily settle the question, and thereby the public will be guarded against the possibility of being imposed upon by purchasing one and the same variety under different names; and the raiser be awarded that honour which is his due.

I will now leave the subject with you, feeling confident that if the scheme be worth adopting, nothing of party feeling will prevent you from rendering it every assistance, by way of inducing each party concerned in adopting this mode of convincing each other which is the true Kate Connor. Macomo.

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THE TRUE KATE CONNOR.

It appears, after all Mr. Lightbody has said, Slater still asserts that Kate Connor is his own seedling; and for my part, I think it is so,—that is, the sort he first let out for Kate, *but not the sort that is now going under that name*, which I have not the least doubt *is* Mr. Lightbody's seedling, and I have said so more than once, even before Mr. Lightbody claimed it; but another season will settle that. As I said before, I believe the sort that Slater first let out for Kate was his own seedling, but this was none other than the (by him) much-praised Queen Philippa, *which certainly was first called Kate Connor*. Its properties are a long cup, narrow petals, and form quite tundishy. I will give a reason why I am more satisfied than ever on this point. A certain gentleman, a friend of Mr. Slater's, asked him whether he could let him have a Kate Connor breeder: he promised him he would, and that there might be no mistake, he would mark it for him in the bloom. Accordingly, when his flowers were in bloom, he said, in the presence of another grower, "I promised Mr. —— he should have a Kate breeder, now this is the true one, and for fear some one else should want it, I will cut the flower off." He cut the flower off and marked the root, and at the proper time, either took or sent it to the gentleman; but when it bloomed, to his no small disappointment, it proved to be what Slater now calls Queen Philippa breeder, and what I consider and believe to be the original and true Kate Connor. This happened in 1850, in 1851 it did not bloom, but in 1852 the gentleman had two blooms of the Queen, or Kate Connor true. Now you will see by the above what Kate Connor *was*, and I will leave it to the readers of the *Midland Florist* to judge why Slater changed it;—not because it was a worse sort, of course, nor because it was his own seedling, for he is "a gatherer and disposer of other men's stuff."

A Looker-on.

Lancashire, January 6, 1853.

NATIONAL PINK SHOW.

We were much pleased with the article on the pink, from your correspondent, R. S., in your December number. We admire much his idea of a national pink show, and, although not named in his article, should be very glad of an opportunity of aiding, as a town, so laudable and essentially necessary an object, as far as we could. We should have been much gratified if either you or R. S. had proposed some plan for the management, and a standard of judgment; but in the absence of any plan, allow

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us to suggest that the towns carnation and picotee shows would not be a bad criterion for the pink; and that the standard of which your correspondent speaks might be decided by a majority of the towns exhibiting. We hope these few rough remarks will have the effect of calling forth a definite form, from some of your more able correspondents; and that the vexed question respecting this delightful little flower will become a settled question. And that we may see the pink exhibited in a national or towns show, during the year 1853, is the earnest desire of

THE PINK GROWERS OF SHEFFIELD.

OBITUARY.

DIED, on Sunday, December 12, 1852, MR. M. WOODHOUSE, of Whitby, brewer and spirit merchant, at the age of 37 years. Originally brought up to the law, in the office of R. Breckon, Esq., of Whitby, solicitor, he applied a mind embued with more than ordinary talent to the study of that profession, and in his usual office duties, he was for nearly twenty years, marked for assiduous, diligent, and zealous attention to business. For many years, Mr. Woodhouse was the correspondent of the *Yorkshire Gazette*, for the Whitby district, and he discharged the duties connected with that position in a manner which indicated great readiness and aptitude, ardent zeal, considerable ability, and marked devotedness. Some few years ago, he succeeded to the business of the Esk Brewery, but continued his connection with that journal. Possessed of good parts, he may be said to have successfully pursued the course of the self-taught student. The influence of his information, acquired with more than ordinary accuracy and good taste, and circulated among others of a kindred turn of mind, was experienced for good, in the circle in which he moved. Mr. Woodhouse was a devoted follower of horticultural pursuits, and many able papers from his pen have appeared in the *Florist*, and other journals of that class. He was a great admirer of music, and himself a creditable amateur. He was with the foremost in the advocacy of every proposal which could tend to the amusement and gratification of his fellow-townsmen; he urged forward with untiring ability every project that could conduce to the welfare of Whitby, or the comfort and happiness of its inhabitants. He was secretary to the Whitby Floral and Horticultural Society, and to his perseverance that society is indebted for its high standing and position. He was one of the brethren of the Ancient Order of Freemasons, and was most highly respected in the lodge. He was also a valuable and talented assistant to the Harmonic Society; and in the conducting of the Whitby

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Agricultural Society, and in other public matters, he was ever ready to render his valuable co-operation and assistance. In all the relations of life, public and private, he faithfully discharged the duties of his station. He leaves a beloved wife and a numerous young family to lament their irreparable loss, and in public his premature death creates a void which will not readily be filled up.

Died, on December 18, aged 64 years, after a few days' illness, Mr. Thomas Whittaker, of Blackley, near Manchester. He had for many years been publisher of the *Gooseberry Growers' Register*, and in that capacity was universally respected. His loss will be severely felt by his family, as well as by the gooseberry growers and floral and horticultural admirers throughout the kingdom.

Part III.

REVIEWS.

The American Gardeners' Chronicle.

The editors of this periodical are Messrs. Maythorn and W. B. Knight, of New York, and we are glad to find that Mr. Edgar Sandars, of Chertsey, Surrey, is the agent for it in England. It appears to be a useful work, and we trust, as horticulture is largely patronized in the United States, that it also will receive a share of public support. No doubt our florist friends across the Atlantic are always glad to hear of their brethren in the "old country," the editors, therefore, have drawn largely on the *Gardeners' Chronicle* and the *Journal of the London Horticultural Society*. There are, however, many interesting subjects discussed, notices of new flowers, &c. We extract two short paragraphs.

"To kill Moles.—Boil a handful of corn into hominy (or wheat into furmenty), then stew with it a spoonful of sugar, with a few grains of strychine. Let it dry. Then drop a little of it into their holes; they will readily devour it, and it will soon stop their burrowing."

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The other is styled "A NEW PLAN.—Judge Gardiner, of Lockport, has a cherry tree completely encased in a wire screen, which, while it permits a free ingress of light and air, effectually excludes the birds, which have hitherto carried on their depredations to an unwarrantable extent."

The editors do not say how large the judge's tree is; but we can well imagine that this plan might answer with the cherry grafted on the mahaleb stock, in the way recommended by Mr. Rivers. Perhaps for a miniature cherry orchard, a dozen of these wire guards would be sufficient, because there would not always happen to be a full crop on each tree, and with care, they would last a number of years. Independent of preserving the fruit, there would be some pleasure to the cherry amateur, in knowing that for once, without very early rising, or the use of the gun, he had got the advantage of his otherwise good friends, the blackbird and thrush.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

I have rented a small garden for some years past, in which apple trees grow well for four or five years; then they begin to canker, and a number of them die. There are two kinds of soil: moss or bog to the depth of four feet, with the upper part earth, about eighteen inches deep. The subsoil of this is red gravel, and it is drained every fifteen feet. Will you, or any of your numerous readers, state what you think is the cause of the failure, and point to a cure, in an early number?

A CONSTANT READER.

I am sorry to say, that through the openness or mildness of the season, my tulips are all above ground, and I am very much afraid lest the frost, when it comes, should injure them. I think they are a full month too early. Now I am but a young grower, and I do not know what to do to protect them, and not draw them too much. How would it answer, if I were to cover them an inch and a half or two inches with dry sand? Pray give me your opinion and advice, in your next. S. H. C.

[If the foliage has not parted, a covering of dry soil might be beneficial. We should recommend the bed to be hooped, and

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a broad-meshed net stretched over. This would break the cold frosty winds, which are most detrimental. Cover with mats in severe weather. But we do not anticipate such serious results as our correspondent.]

MY GARDEN.

No. II.

A CASUAL observer, and one who was not a florist, would see little to interest him, were he to walk round my garden at this dull period of the year. But such would not be the case with the true lover of flowers; granted, there may be few gay blossoms to feast the eye with, but imagination can bring to recollection the flowers of the past year,—the chasteness of the auricula and picotee, the continued gaiety of the pansy and the rose, the gorgeousness of the tulip and carnation, or the boldness of the hollyhock and dahlia. As each of these flowers passes through the florist's mind, hope for the future springs up, and with renewed vigour he continues his winter's care, knowing that there are brighter days in store. With such hopes as these do I find the interest in my garden continue throughout the year, and I trust that all those who may honour this page with a perusal are animated in the same way.

But I must not run away from the practical part of my subject. I hope, by the time this is in the hands of the readers of the *Midland Florist*, or very soon after, to have my auriculas and polyanthuses top-dressed with the compost mentioned last month. The roots of these plants will soon be at work, and water may be given rather more abundantly. Should severe frost set in, they must be carefully protected, not that the *plants* would take much harm, but the *bloom* most assuredly would be injured, should any severe check be experienced during their spring growth. Our grandfathers perhaps would think it very strange for us to talk of repotting auriculas at this season, nor am I going to advocate such a plan,

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except with regard to a few plants that may be in small pots, and are growing fast; if the roots are pot-bound, by all means give a slight shift; but the cases in which this will be required, are quite exceptional ones. The *Midland Florist* of last year contains such full and excellent directions from Mr. Dodwell, as to carnations and picotees, that every grower should possess himself of the volume. Let it be mine, then, only to say, that the soil should be well prepared for potting, and that the watering pot must be used very sparingly, if at all. Pansies for blooming in pots should be attended to at once; for blooming them successfully, they require a frame, with a gentle bottom heat,—that derived from leaves being the best. Tulips, with me, appear to be early this season, and will require great care and attention. Frost must be carefully guarded against; but on the other hand, they must not become drawn-up and sickly. Fortunate will be the man who can guard against both evils. Ranunculuses should be planted about the middle of February, if the beds are in a fit state; but if not, they will be best out of the ground for a short time. An examination of my dahlia roots has reminded me that some of my readers may wish to know the qualities of the leading dahlias sent out last year. The following are really good, and may with advantage be added to the most select collection:—Annie Salter, Sir R. Whittington, Queen of the Whites, Triumphant. The next best are, Edmond Foster, George Villiers, Morning Star, Scarlet Ring, Malerna, Dr. Frampton, Douglas Jerrold, Miss Ward. The faults of the following may be described in few words:—Lizzy, Phantom, and Alice, very uncertain; Kossuth, Miss Bathurst, and Sir F. Thessiger, not much better; Saracen and Douglas Jerrold, very hard eyes. Of older varieties, but not much known, General Fauchier is very good and constant; Sir C. Napier, very fine, but not very constant; Queen of Dahlias and Queen of Beauties, exquisite, when caught right, but difficult to get in good order.

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My "cold frames" have demanded unusual attention of late. Frost can generally be guarded against, but with such wet weather as we have lately had, the plants will damp off, unless constantly watched, and divested of all symptoms of decay. The old plan of digging out one or two feet of earth, that the plants might be "kept warm," must have been the source of much trouble to those who adopted it this season. I have, on the opposite principle, got my plants as near the glass as possible; the pots are plunged in coal ashes, to ensure thorough drainage, and at present the plan has proved very successful; how it will do if severe frost set in I can hardly tell. At all events, my plants are as well prepared to meet it, as they would have been if I had gone on the principle of "keeping them warm," and at the same time, and thereby materially injuring them by fog and damp.

In the greenhouse, a gay appearance may easily be kept up, by means of cinerarias, camellias, hyacinths, tulips, &c. Pelargoniums, if any remain unattended to, should be repotted forthwith. Specimen plants must be kept well "tied out." If your plants are at all injuring each other, the most satisfactory plan will be to throw some away; one good plant in May will be far more interesting than three or four drawn-up ones. In general, three or four plants are grown in the space that should be occupied by one; and it may be taken as a rule, that pelargoniums should, at this time of the year, stand two feet from each other. Unless your plants are good enough for such a distance, be assured you know not thoroughly how to cultivate them. Cinerarias, if wanted as specimen plants, for exhibition in April or May, must never become pot-bound; they should be kept growing, but without heat. Fuchsias and roses, for early blooming, may be forced gently, remembering that to be successful with the former, none must be used but those with thoroughly ripened wood, and with respect to the latter, those that are well rooted.

J. J. C.

Jan. 15, 1853.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ON SAVING TULIP SEED.

BY ALPHA.

WHO is there among the many cultivators of the tulip who has not, at some time or other, experienced an ardent desire to raise seedlings? And how many have, to a certain extent, been disappointed, when they anticipated success?

The system of hybridizing and saving seed having occupied my attention for some time, I have thought it would not prove uninteresting to the cultivators of this popular flower, if I were to bestow a few moments' consideration on some of the evils that have resulted from a want of due discrimination when engaged in carrying out this interesting and attractive pursuit.

The near approach of the tulip bloom, and the preparatory efforts which are being made to render the national displays really worthy of the commanding position they are destined to occupy, seem invisibly to fix the attention of florists generally on this beauteous floral gem; which is thus strikingly pourtrayed in the *Leisure Hour*. p. 368.

> "'Tis beautiful, most beautiful! most splendidly it shines,
> Rich in its flowing colours and its softly pencilled lines;
> Most lavishly doth Nature in gay profusion shower
> Her gifts of gorgeous beauty on this bright and stately flower."

It is incontestibly true that some most resplendent varieties now grace the collections of many eminent cultivators, that have been originated in this country, and that we have completely distanced our floral neighbours, the Dutch, in the cultivation of this particular flower. Much however as they have advanced its excellence, and onward as the acknowledged pro-

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gress has been, we may yet, with perfect reliance, anticipate a still further accession of new varieties, at no distant period; and a superficial survey of the thousands of seedling tulips now rapidly progressing to maturity, under the energetic skill of the British florist, is, I think, a sufficient proof that my assertions are not ideal. It would indeed be a difficult task to find a county without its cultivators of the tulip, and as a concomitant circumstance, its raisers of seedlings also; but whether or not that strict attention has been observed as to the method of hybridizing, which the subject demands, is a point evidently deserving our earnest consideration, and is what I purpose very briefly to notice.

Unquestionably we too often find that in the excitement attendant on our endeavour to produce new varieties, the most ardent are sometimes led to overlook the strict requirements forming a preponderating feature in the department of their cultivation.

On various occasions, we have witnessed some varieties of flowers (particularly in the rose and byblœmen classes) quite undecided in their character, partaking in a great degree, in the early stages of their bloom, of the rose, whilst, after standing a few days, they assume a decided byblœmen tint, being in reality of neither class, and unfit to exhibit in either. The disposition of this mutability of colouring may, in the generality of cases, I apprehend, be traced to injudicious hybridizing of flowers of opposite classes.

In byblœmens, I could without difficulty, name many varieties having a distinct rosy shade. This, in no small degree, tends to deprive the bloom of that density of colouring so desirable in, and characteristic of its class. Equally as much diversity of colouring will be likely to be produced by crossing bizarres with roses and bizarres with byblœmens; and the white ground of the one appears to have a direct tendency to neutralize the solid yellow base of the other (which is the great desiderata of this division), and not unfrequently produces a pale

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ground colour on the exterior, and also destroys what ought to be the leading point of a bizarre tulip, a clear solid yellow base. Thus the majority of flowers resulting from the latter cross impregnation may at first opening be expected to present to our view a creamy interior, which, to use a florist's phrase, requires bleaching, before it is in a fit condition for the exhibition stage, and then probably will not possess the unblemished purity now so universally sought for. It is clear this system must cease, and as progressive improvement is the florist's watchword, I feel persuaded that much of the evil now under notice may be partially, if not wholly remedied.

It is not a very arduous task, in the present day, to find flowers of splendid form, with dense, distinct, and vivid colours, and why they should not be preferred in the important operation of seeding, I am at a loss to imagine. It has also been suggested to me by an esteemed floral friend, and his suggestion appears deserving of notice, that in hybridizing the different classes, it would be desirable to confine that operation to flowers in a strictly flamed or feathered state, *i. e.* the flamed flowers *with* flamed varieties, and treat the feathered flowers in a similar manner. This, though apparently a trivial circumstance, may be experimentally found an important feature in our floral operations.

To endeavour to keep as near as possible to the shade of colour in the flower from which the seed is saved, and the one by whose agency it is obtained, appears of great importance; and at the same time every effort should be made to increase the depth of colouring, so long as an approximating shade in each flower is secured. Perhaps this point may be more clearly illustrated by selecting the Duke of Devonshire tulip and Polyphemus, two known and popular varieties. In the Duke, we find great substance, density of colour, and purity, combined with size; in Polyphemus we have the standard flower of the day, combined with a vigorous growth, and other

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generally acknowledged qualities. I do not mean to assert that the progeny arising from such an admixture of these two fine sorts will be perfect, but I do fearlessly affirm, that flowers of valuable properties may be reasonably expected.

In the byblœmen class, the chief aim of the florist should be to fix a dense body colour, not partaking in an indistinct manner of rose or byblœmen, but marked with a distinct violet or black; whilst in the rose class, having secured form and purity, brilliancy of colour should be deemed an accelerating point.

How many cultivators have lamented the extreme inconstancy of their seedlings, and also their habitually breaking into inferior strains, which, possibly, more careful attention to fertilizing operations might have prevented. Much of the tulip culture is evidently yet shrouded in mystery, but I think I may venture to state, that a little attention to the hints I have thrown out, will not be found productive of retrograding effects.

CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

[Continued from page 45.]

ERRATA.—In the descriptions already given,
Page 36, Admiral Curzon: for object *against* it, read object *to* it.
„ 37, Captain Edwards: for not a *striking* grower, read not a *strong* grower.
„ 38, Lord Lewisham: for white sometimes *flecked*, read sometimes *flushed*.
„ 39, Prince Albert: for colours well distributed but *dark*, read *dull*.
„ 40, Splendid: for beauti*ful* shaped petals, read beauti*fully*, &c.
„ 41, General Monk: for will take a *part*, read take a *place*.
„ 42, Horsa: for not *deep*, read not *dark*
„ 45, Prince Albert: for the exhibi*tion* can scarcely have, &c. read the exhibi*tor* can, &c.; and for apt to be *crowded*, read apt to be *confused*.

PURPLE FLAKES.

Beauty of Woodhouse (Mansley).—By many, and good cultivators, supposed to be the best P.F. in cultivation. I dissent from this opinion only on the ground that it has not the compact gently-cupped habit of one or two varieties I shall presently name, though for smoothness, sweet colour, regular marking, and pure white, it leaves nothing to be desired. It is also stout and a strong grower. Raised at Woodhouse,

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near Halifax. First bloomed in 1836, and was sent out in 1839. Singular as it may seem to the uninitiated,—who, bearing in mind the remarkably beautiful white, and its frequent preponderance in this variety, might infer something very opposite,—the blooms from the seedling plant were purple selfs, with the exception of the last bloom, which shewed a few stripes of white, and led to its being saved for further trial. No doubt, as my informant remarks, "many, which would have proved fine varieties, have been consigned to the rubbish heap, in similar circumstances."

Earl Spencer (Barringer).—Raised at Bedford, from mixed seed, and sent out in 1847. From the high encomium it had elicited when shown as a seedling, and which it doubtless well deserved, very eager expectation was excited, and much anxious longing was felt by those who had expended their guineas in its purchase, for its appearance in the succeeding season. I am sorry to say this expectation was quite disappointed in this neighbourhood, for though the flower had a good white, fine colour, regular marking, good substance, and a smooth gently-cupped petal, it was small, very small, was narrow in the petal, and quite deficient of *stuff* to form a fine flower, so that it was utterly unable to compete with several varieties which had been long in existence; and, after fruitless trials, continued to the last blooming season, to master these defects, I have finally discarded it. It will probably continue to be grown by many for some time to come, but for my own part, I cannot see the propriety of cultivating a variety which, with a much greater tax upon the skill and patience of the cultivator, will yield him *one* bloom only, and that inferior, whilst such varieties as Meynell, Premier, and Beauty of Woodhouse, will give him *three*, and be, as breeder flowers, also more likely to realize a progeny of superior character. The high opinions the flower elicited prior to "coming out," were based upon a single bloom, of an exceedingly beautiful and meritorious character, and this is another illustration of the great necessity for carefulness when a single bloom only is seen. I think it is quite as needful for the raiser to guard against misleading himself, as for those whose opinion is sought to hesitate in expressing an opinion,—for the latter can know nothing of the flower for constancy, and will naturally assume that the specimen submitted is a fair average of all grown.

Great Northern (Ely).—Sent out in 1849, when it was supposed to be a very fine variety. Like the preceding, it has been a disappointment, but from very opposite causes, being exceedingly full, irregular in its marking, blotched in the white, and very confused. It has been shown once or twice, but it is not such as *I* should recommend to any, for any purpose; for I think I may safely say, that with plant against plant, it

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would be beaten nine hundred and ninety-nine times in every thousand, by either Premier, Squire Meynell, or Beauty of Woodhouse.

Lord Byron (Taylor).—Raised at Nottingham, from Ely's Mango, crossed with Bellerophon. First bloomed in 1844. The cross is strikingly apparent in the flower, greatly to the deterioration of its quality. Its period of bloom also follows Bellerophon, being rather late, in place of the earliness of the mother plant. Its marking is regular and decided, the colour being about an equal blending of the parents, the white fair, petal narrow, moderately smooth, and of fair substance. A vigorous grower. This is, I believe, the true character of Lord Byron, and as such a character is not in accordance with the general opinion of the flower in this neighbourhood, founded on some very fine specimens which have been seen in my collection, and as I have recommended the variety as one deserving of extensive cultivation, it will perhaps be well to state that I find I have been growing a spurious variety (though very much superior to the real Simon Pure), which was sent to me at the time the flower came out, by a person, since dead, then residing in the neighbourhood of Nottingham, in return for my subscription, and this cheat I only discovered during the past season, by the aid of plants sent to me direct from Mr. Taylor. It is due to Mr. Taylor, to say that he was in no way a party to the imposition, and that in reply to a very favourable opinion expressed by myself in his hearing, in the spring of last year, he stated, "he thought Lord Byron a very *good second-rate*, but he had never seen it in any very remarkable style." It is perhaps unnecessary to say I have removed Lord Byron from my list. The spurious variety, I have little doubt, will prove to be Ely's Mango; this, however, will require another blooming season to decide, for though I have repeatedly had plants of that old variety, they were so weakly or unhealthy, I never could induce them to grow.

Perfection (Puxley).—Sent out in 1850. Like most earthly "perfections," this comes with a drawback, the alloy being its shy growth. Where it can be induced to "enjoy" itself, it is indeed a variety of exceeding excellence. The petal is, perhaps a shade too long, but it is beautifully cupped. smooth, and of fine substance; the colour rich and sparkling, and admirably distributed; the white pure and unclouded; the flower full, without the least confusion, and of good size.

Premier (Milwood).—Raised at Derby, Milwood states from a scarlet bizarre, and first bloomed in 1837. A very great favourite of mine, as I consider its *habit* superior to any other of its class, being gently cupped and compact, moderately full, without being confused, and of fair size. When opening, the white appears clouded, but clears up as the

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bloom matures, when it well contrasts with its lively and regular lilac purple markings. It is an early bloomer, but remains a long time in flower. I have repeatedly shown blooms fourteen, sixteen, and eighteen days after showing colour. The petal is broad, of good substance, and very smooth. Habit of grass narrow, reflexed, and flowing, and of a very light green colour. Grows freely, though the grass is small, and enjoys a rich soil.

Poins (May).—Sent out in 1850. Rather late in blooming. A fine large bold flower, good broad petal, fair white, and very dark purple. Those who prefer a heavy style will appreciate this variety; for myself, I must confess I like flowers of a more lively appearance, for we seldom see a very heavy purple, without the accompaniment, more or less, of a clouded white.

Queen of Purples (Holliday).—A variety with several good points about it, having a good white, a lively pleasing colour, and a well shaped smooth petal, but one I have discarded, because, with me, even before the bloom was matured, it had become open in the centre, loose in the pod, and the outer petals had collapsed.

Rev. I. Bramhall (Clarke).—Raised, I believe, at Lichfield, and sent out in 1849. A seedling from Squire Meynell, it follows very closely the characteristics of its parent. The colour inclines more to a ruby purple, and it is later in bloom. The last is its worst fault, as Meynell is quite backward enough.

Rachel.—A seedling of my own, from Squire Trow, which it much resembles, save that it is larger, more full, and has more colour. The opinions expressed by those who have seen it, have been very favourable, and *I* think it will be worthy of cultivation, even in a selection; but all who read this, must bear in mind that this is the raiser's opinion. Having had several applications for it, I introduce it here, to say the stock and sole interest is in the hands of Mr. Charles Turner, which may perhaps spare some friends the trouble of applying to me for it. First bloomed in 1851.

Squire Meynell (Brabbin).—Raised at Yoxall Wood Lane, in the neighbourhood of Burton-upon-Trent, and first bloomed and shown (then as a seedling) twenty or twenty-one years since. It is a fine old variety, and worthy of cultivation everywhere, where the carnation is admired. It is still a very vigorous grower, rises to a good height, is full, of good size, first-rate in its white and regularity of colour—a dense purple when first opened, but changing as it ages to a beautifully clear lilac—with a well-shaped, broad and smooth petal. Such characteristics go a long way towards the realization of the A. 1 of the class; yet, with all these merits, I can scarcely assign it that place. Wanting the "gently cupped" petal, it must assuredly be less graceful than those rejoicing in that

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property. I long to see a flower which shall have the habit of Premier, with the rich colours and pure white of Meynell. If their periods of flowering were blended too, it would advantage both, one being an early variety and the other full late.

Squire Trow (Jackson).—Raised at Stakenbridge, from Elliott's British Queen (P.F.), and sent out in 1847. A very delightful flower, white and colour especially lively, cheerful, and well contrasted; the petal broad, smooth, well shaped, and stout, and continued to the crown, giving it, for a reflexed, or flat-petalled flower, a fine form. Sometimes a little more colour would be desirable, and of course the habit described is not to be put in comparison with a duly cupped flower; but balancing every point according to my ability, I place this variety as one amongst the best six P.F.s, whilst I reject Earl Spencer, which, by the way, came out in the same year, at more than four times the price, and which for habit is certainly most admirable. Grass short, but grows freely.

SCARLET FLAKES.

Acca (Puxley).—Sent out last autumn. A bold and striking flower, large and full, and colours very bright. Apparently requires some care in wintering.

Africanus (Chullingford).—I do not know where this flower was originated. It is of recent introduction, and a very pretty little sort. Thin, but with a finely shaped petal, and dense and regular markings of bright scarlet. White good. The plants I have show a disposition to be "gouty," and cankered. If caught in good health, I should think it would make a good breeder.

Beauty of Brighouse (Bottomley).—Very opposite in its characteristics to the preceding—large and full. Some years since, it came here in the finest possible condition, so that all my florist friends were Beauty mad; but very soon it seemed to "forget its cunning," coming coarse, irregular in colour, and blotchy, and finally our patience wearing out, it has ceased to be cultivated.

Bishop of Gloucester (Brown).—A flower which may very safely be described as very pretty when it will come as it ought to do; but it will not do so here, for it will not grow, or stand the hot sun of the summer, coax it how I may.

Cradley Pet (Wallis).—Raised at Cradley, near Stourbridge, *supposed*, from Rainforth's Gameboy (S.B.), which it strikingly resembles in its habit of growth and bloom. Decidedly the best of its class, though rather small and thin. The petal is broad, gently cupped, stout, and beautifully smooth; white very pure, and colour bright, very bright, and bold and regular in its style of marking. Should be grown everywhere. Sent out in 1849.

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Dido (Hollyoake).—Another sport, the result of a cross between Don John and Patriarch (S.B.s), Don John being the mother plant. A very fine flower most unquestionably, having bright colour, pure white, full size, and a fine form; but unfortunately it appears to follow the constitution of the Don, and despite all my efforts, has slipped through my fingers.

Duke of Devonshire (Barringer).—Sent out in 1850. A well-marked flower; good white, and a stout broad petal; naturally too flat. Blooms late. This property, which caused it to be in perfection, when other flowers were past their best, gave it a great advantage at the trial exhibition held here in that year, and probably the fact, that it then took the whole of the prizes in the class, excited expectations it has since failed to realize, and caused it to be looked upon with less than its fair share of regard.

Earl of Leicester (Wigg).—Another Leicester variety, and another sport; raised from a purple flake. A fair average sort when well grown, with regular markings of dense scarlet, and white free from spots. Petal broad and of good substance. Blooms late. Raised in 1838, by the Rev. S. Wigg.

Firebrand (Hardwick).—Raised at Wellingborough, near Northampton, and first sent out in 1846. I place this second to Cradley Pet. A first-rate variety; full without confusion, and well crowned. White pure and scarlet bright; marking very regular, and constant in character. Petal not quite equal to the Pet in shape or habit, otherwise it would be first; but of fair form, smooth, and of good substance. I have shown this every year in my stand since it has been in my collection, and this is a pretty good index of its constancy and character; for I may tell my friends who are not so familiar with *stand* showing, that there are invariably placed the best specimens of every class the exhibiter possesses. The grass is small, rather stiff, and of a tall habit, but a good grower.

Hero of Middlesex (Willmer).—I have seen this variety *very good*, when its fine white contrasts well with a bright scarlet, very equally distributed over a broad and moderately *stiff* petal, which being continued to the crown, gives the flower a good finish. Its *general* character is, to be deficient of colour, and what there is of it, much broken, and irregular in its distribution. For this reason, the flower is now on its last trial in my collection. A fine bloom may save its life a year or two, but I think it cannot last long.

Justice Shallow (May).—First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1850. Much has been said about the inferior white of this variety, and it is true it *dies* "pinky," but in its prime it is a flower of a hundred; large, full, fine in form, and unequalled for its massive petal, which is broad, round, and smoothness itself; the white is rich and waxy in appearance (not transparent), and the colour, a dense scarlet, is dis-

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tributed in remarkably bold and regular stripes, giving it a character for *distinctness* most valuable in itself, but even more so, as enabling the tasteful exhibitor to obtain a greatly increased effect, whether on the home stage or on the exhibition table, by the judicious use of its admirable contrast. I should place it much higher, were it a free grower, but this unfortunately it has not been with me. The grass is small, much resembling the habit of Lady Ely, and it must not be over-driven.

King of Scarlets (Ely).—Sent out in 1844, history unknown. A full flower, remarkable for its regular markings and good white. Petal not first-rate, being narrow, but smooth, and not confused, though quite small enough in the centre tiers. The grass is broad and of a bold flowing character, but it is a poor doer.

Lydia (Addenbrook).—One of the old standards. Raised by Mr. Adams, gardener to John Addenbrook, Esq., of Woolaston Hall, near Stourbridge, both of whom are gone to their last resting place. The flower is remarkable for its large size and bold style, but is deficient in refinement. The petal is broad, moderately smooth, and of fair substance, the colour bright and well distributed, the white middling. The grass is short and close in habit, and during the last year or two has shown symptoms of a break up in its constitution. It should not be over-excited during the growing season.

Mars (Puxley).—Sent out in 1850. A large bold flower; one I have seen in fine style in the south, but here it has invariably presented itself with its markings broken into an infinity of small stripes and spots, and therefore has been rejected, after two years of trial.

Patriot (Mitchell).—An old variety, and still worth the care of the cultivator. Full without confusion, and of good form. Petal rather small, but nicely rounded and very smooth; marking regular and bold, white middling. A strong grower.

Queen Victoria (Simpson).—Raised at Sheffield, and sent out, comparatively, recently. A capital flower; one of the best four. Very luxuriant grower, sportive, and extremely impatient of confinement. Has the largest and broadest petal among the S.F., so broad indeed as to make it difficult to give it a good finish in the crown, so that it generally is too flat in form. The white is good, and colour brilliant, edge *moderately* smooth. It is not at all unusual to see run flowers and blooms in proper character on the same plant, with this variety. It should be grown *well*, for nothing can be *starved* into a good character, but gross stimulants should be carefully avoided.

William IV.—Raised by Mr. Thomas Wilson (or purchased by him, prior to blooming), of Layerthorpe, York, and sent out in 1837. First bloomed in 1829. H. S. M., in a list of

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S.F.s, given at page 73 of the *Midland Florist*, for 1850, says, "still first-rate." I cannot say *first-rate*, because its petal is too narrow; but it is a good old variety, clear in the white, regular and brilliant in its colour,—of which there is a good proportion,—smooth, of fair substance, full sized, and well crowned. Like most old flowers, it grows weaker with age, and with me it is not near so vigorous as it was some years since.

[To be continued.]

ORCHARD AND FRUIT REMINISCENCES OF 1852.

The apple crop of the past season, in the midland counties, has been extremely partial, and our means of observation, therefore, in some measure circumscribed. A few seedlings, possessing average merit for culinary purposes, have been submitted to our notice. *Bradley's Pearmain* we have not seen, but it is well spoken of by competent authority. The *Mannington Pearmain*, though a very nice excellently flavoured variety, must yield the palm to our old and well-tried friend, the *Ribstone*. Fruit of both were tested by some eminent fruit amateurs of this neighbourhood, and the above decision arrived at. Yet the Mannington must become a favourite, as it is evidently an early and productive variety, without suffering from canker, as the Ribstone does; in fact, as a substitute for the latter, we should strongly recommend it. *Hubbard's Pearmain* we have also fruited, and consider it an excellent variety. It eats crisp and juicy, with a sugary flavour. *Dummeller's Seedling*, or *Normanton Wonder*, has been peculiarly fine, coming very clear, with red next the sun. On lightish soils, this is really a very handsome as well as a productive variety. Its culinary character, too, is first-rate. It is a sort that requires considerable pruning, and keeping thin in the middle, as too much wood, both with this and the *Caldwell*, seriously affects the appearance of the fruit. As the *Blenheim Orange*, or *Woodstock Pippin*, ages, it bears regularly and

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well. For several years past, our trees have been laden with fine fruit—*copiously* every alternate year. This is indeed a noble apple. Its form being so good, independent of its other qualities, renders it a favourite at our horticultural shows, whether "great or small." *Alexander*, or the *Russian Apple*, in some localities, has been extremely fine. On strong soils, it is apt to canker, and on the whole is far from profitable. A labouring man, residing at Cotgrave, near Nottingham, a few years ago, had some fruit of a monstrous size, and very handsome. He had no name for it, but thought such fine fruit might prove acceptable to her Majesty. He accordingly sent a basket, which was most graciously accepted. He received, in her Majesty's name, a letter of thanks, and since that time, in the neighbourhood, it has gone by the name of *The Queen's Apple*, and many grafts have been put into his neighbour's trees, commemorative of the event. We must not forget a very nice little fruit, which is peculiar to this neighbourhood. It is the *Keddleston Pippin*, raised at the seat of Lord Scarsdale, near Derby. To our fancy, it is quite equal to the far-famed Old Golden Pippin. Slender in growth, and worthy of a place amongst the most select varieties. It is not very plentiful, but as a table fruit, deserves extensive cultivation. *Premier* (Mee) is a fine new variety, raised at Sheepshed, in Leicestershire. Pearmain-shaped, rich scarlet next the sun, and a firm juicy apple, of excellent flavour. Its growth is much like the Blenheim Orange. Of this variety we entertain a very favourable opinion. *Lord Suffield* has cropped remarkably well with us, on young trees of not more than two years' growth, in the nursery rows. As an early culinary apple, it will entirely supersede the Keswick Codlin. Birds generally are good judges of fruits; many of our large apples, when fallen to the ground, had the interior completely pecked away. It is conical in form, of large size, and cooks remarkably well. *Celina* (as known here) is an early and sure

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bearer, good in form, greenish yellow, striped and mottled with red next the sun. Young trees, two or three years old, bear abundantly. *Queen Caroline*, or *Brown's Seedling*, appears to be an apple worthy of extensive cultivation. With perfection of form it combines beauty and early and abundant bearing. If Louise Bonne of Jersey pear is worthy of a place wherever there is a square yard of land vacant, so also, we are confident, should this excellent apple be patronized. We have planted many as pyramids, for bearing, for after all, we think that fine early apples will pay best. They probably will not have to compete so much with American and French apples, which, later in the season, bear carriage better, and arrive here in abundance. *Greenup's Pippin* is remarkable for its beautiful and large fruit. The tree is of rather pendulous habit, and is often loaded with heavy crops. Form rather conical, rich crimson next the sun, creamy white in the shade, often marked with network of russet. One of the most attractive fruits grown. *Sturmere Pippin* has come into bearing. Its appearance is rather against it, in comparison with the fruit previously enumerated; still its other good qualities may counterbalance appearances. It keeps till late in the season, has a sharp and agreeable flavour, and will fetch a good price when most other eating apples are past.

Amongst other things experience has established, is the *Garrendon Nut*. It continues an immense bearer, with excellent flavour, and will be grown everywhere. This and the *Cosford* we consider the best two, and the *Dwarf Prolific* next.

In raspberries, *Walker's Dulcis* and *Scalter's Victoria* were pre-eminent in flavour, being quite as sweet as the Yellow Antwerp. The *Northumberland Fillbasket* appears to us likely to beat the Fastolff out of the field, as far as size and flavour goes. It is also very luxuriant in growth, and distinct in character.

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COPPICEANA.

No. XXVII.

WE were much pleased, the other day, in receiving a note from a person in an humble sphere of life, requesting to know the price of Yucca recurvifolia and Cryptomeria Japonica, which he had seen described in a recent number of the *Midland Florist*. He had just come into possession of a freehold allotment, and was desirous of having something good for a certain position in his garden. If we can engender a taste in working men for the graceful and beautiful amongst trees and shrubs, we shall not have laboured in vain. This man might have been contented with a syringa, or common lilac, had he not seen our description, but roused by that, he is anxious to participate with his richer neighbours in the enjoyment of the exquisite form with which nature has endowed the Cryptomeria. But to our climbing plants we must now turn, and the fragrant family of honeysuckles claim our attention.

Lonicera Japonica is a decided and beautiful evergreen plant, with pointed foliage, dark green, with a purplish shade below. Blooms most profusely during summer, and is very fragrant.

L. Sempervirens is attractive, from its long scarlet tubular flowers. It is not so fragrant as the preceding, but rises a good height, and is generally admired.

L. Sempervirens Sheppardii.—A most desirable sort. The flowers, which are orange scarlet, are produced in large trusses. It is a strong grower, and is well adapted for pillars or trellises. We believe that this fine variety is also known as *L. superba*, and was raised by the same Mr. Sheppard who originated the fine holly which bears his name.

L. Sempervirens Aurea.—This is not often seen, and it appears to be more delicate than any of the preceding. It blooms in the same form, but the flowers are a rich yellow, forming a fine contrast with the scarlet sorts.

L. Sempervirens Brownii.—This was raised some years ago, when the Messrs. Brown lived at the Royal Nursery, Slough, now occupied by Mr. Charles Turner. It appears to be a cross between the Sempervirens and one of the common sorts. The tube is scarlet, but the aperture or petal is formed

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in the way of the Dutch. It is a fine thing, and worthy of extensive cultivation. It is a singular circumstance, but two years ago, we had some flowers of a seedling lonicera sent to us from the neighbourhood of Garstang, in Lancashire, and which we pronounced to be identical with Brownii. The gentleman who sent them had never heard of this variety, and we fear was somewhat disappointed by his beautiful plant being forestalled, the same means probably having produced a like effect.

L. Sempervirens Serotina.—This is very similar to the first-named variety in form of flowers, but the foliage is narrower, and it blooms at a later period in the season.

L. Fragrantissima.—A newly-introduced evergreen variety, with a strong bushy habit. As yet, it does not appear to be very liberal with its blossoms, it not having flowered with us; but we understand that it has produced flowers, and they are white, and highly scented. Probably a dry gravelly situation, with a south wall, might induce it to bloom more freely.

Besides these, we grow L. splendida and L. purpurescens; but as they have not flowered, and are only recent acquisitions, we must defer them till a future opportunity.

PASSIFLORA. *(The Passion Flower.)*

Most attractive climbing plants, but they require a warm situation to flourish so far north as Nottingham. In the south of England we have seen them very beautiful. Close to the sea, at Nettlestone, near Ryde, over a pilot's cottage, called the Old Fort, the common sort (Passiflora cœrulea) used to grow in great luxuriance.

SOLANUM.

This is the nightshade, the common sort, which grows in our hedges, being very poisonous. The only variety we grow is the

S. Jasminifolium, with large leaves, like the jasmine, as its specific name implies. The flowers are produced in clusters, and are of a very lively and attractive blue.

VITIS.

V. Heterophylla Tricolor—This is an interesting plant, but with us it is killed down to the ground every winter. The foliage is of singular form, though approximating to the vine, strongly marked with cream colour, intermixed with pink.

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WISTARIA, KNOWN ALSO AS THE GLYCINE.

W. Sinensis is a splendid hardy deciduous climbing plant. Mr. Fortune tells us that in China it hangs in festoons from the trees, with charming effect. It is now to be obtained at a reasonable price, and any one possessing a suitable situation for such a strong growing plant, should undoubtedly possess it. When first planted, it is of slow growth for a year or two, but when established, it pushes with great vigour. The flowers are formed like the laburnum, and produced in similar character; they are however, larger, and of a fine blue colour. The foliage also is good, being pinnate, or like an ash, and altogether, we may venture to say, it is one of the best plants in existence for a pillar, trellis, front of a house, or the rafters of a conservatory.

W. Sinensis Alba.—A white-flowering variety of the preceding, and of recent introduction. Whether it will be so showy as the blue one remains to be proved. At all events, it is a very valuable acquisition.

LIQUID MANURE.

THIS "nectar of vegetation," as Nicholl calls it, in many instances is entirely neglected, and in many instances where it is used, had better be let alone altogether. A friend of mine, an old gardener, called upon me one evening last summer, when I was busily engaged watering some plants with it. He remarked that he liked liquid manure very well in the winter time, but he could not use it in the summer, as it always burnt his plants. My reply was, that the fault was not in the liquor, but in the user, as if he had properly mixed with water, it would have been beneficial, instead of injurious. Now this person's first remark, as to its value in the winter time, I am not going to deny, as I know from experience that liquid manure so applied does benefit plants, and that at a time when our manure heaps are washing away, and would be otherwise useless in a liquid state. My garden lies close to a farm-yard, and having to make some alterations about two years ago, I had to plant some hundreds of laurels. Wishing these to grow

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fast, for the purpose of making a blind, I had large quantities of the drainings of the manure heaps carried to them, during the winter months. The growth of the laurels so treated has been very satisfactory, as many of them have made shoots in a single season three feet long. But the proper time when liquid manure should be used is when plants are in a growing state, as it acts as ready-made food to them; being carried through the fibres of the plant, its effects are immediate. In using liquid manure to growing plants, the only care requisite is, that it is not too strong. Nature gives her food in small quantities. Rainwater contains ammonia in a very small degree, and the fibres or mouths of plants are so small that they will not admit of an overdose of food, as they soon become unfit for the office they have to perform. As to the strength of the liquor, I never, for the use of plants in pots, put more than a pint to a gallon of water, and in some cases not more than half that quantity; but it must be borne in mind that I always water with it. I do not merely give one or two waterings during the season of growth, or before some horticultural exhibition, as is the case with many gardeners; but by making a regular practice of it, it is no more trouble than the use of clear water, and I find myself amply repaid by the vigorous growth and healthy looks of my plants, particularly such as cinerarias, calceolarias, fuchsias, geraniums, &c. I also find it particularly valuable for pansies, polyanthuses, auriculas, roses, and such like things, in the open ground; but for such things as these, I use it as strong again as for pot plants. I may also remark, that before using it in the open ground, I always fork the ground up to the depth of a few inches, some distance round the plant, as the fibres do not lie near to the stem. I then give a good soaking, so that the plant, instead of being injured by having its fibres drawn to the top of the soil, receives a real benefit. For all fruits, such as grapes, peaches, melons, cu-

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cumbers, and strawberries, I use about a pint of liquor to a gallon of water, beginning its use when the fruit is fairly set, and discontinuing it as soon as the fruit begins to colour. For kitchen garden crops, liquid manure is invaluable, particularly to such things as celery, lettuce, cauliflowers, and all crops which run much to leaf. I may mention, that in the shape of liquid manure nothing need be wasted as useless; drainings of dung-heaps, sewerage, soapsuds, and everything else that drains now carry away, might contribute in some degree to improving our gardens, and turning to some account the labour and industry spent in them.

W. S. M. M.

[We shall be glad of the paper promised.—Ed.]

PANSIES.

BY MR. JAMES LIGHTBODY, FLORIST, FALKIRK.

Our Scottish-raised varieties are now, I am glad to state, assuming some importance in the floricultural world; and I fervently trust, having once got into the track road, we shall yet continue to keep up our fame. Amongst those varieties which have come under my observation, I must particularly note the following:—

Mariam (Dickson & Co.)—A large bold flower, with heavy belting of rich purple, massy petals, and heavy blotch. It is truly fine, and sustains the well-earned reputation of the raisers of Royal Visit.

Miss Talbot (Dickson & Co.) needs no further eulogium than to state that it equals Mariam, only the ground is a clear cream colour.

Jubilee (Dickson & Co.) is one of my favourites. The colour of the belting is novel, what I would term ruby puce. Pale yellow ground. Seems to keep well in character. Altogether a refined variety.

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Victory (Dickson & Co.) is a bold yellow ground, with a distinct blotch and rich belting. In the spring months especially it comes in first-rate style.

Chevy Chase (Scott) is another fine bold yellow-ground variety. This should be grown.

Post Captain (Marshmant), an English variety, I was highly pleased with. The colour of the belting is a brownish purple, clear yellow ground, with a very smooth surface. Altogether a variety that would charm the most fastidious taste.

Sultan (Marsh).—A beat upon the old favourite, Youell's Supreme. It keeps longer in character, during the summer months. The colour of the belting is very rich.

Cæsar (Marsh) is in the same style as the preceding.

Pandora (Hunt) is of a different character from any I have yet seen. The claret-coloured belting is a novelty. In summer it does not come well in character, but in spring and autumn it is very attractive, and I have no doubt it will prove a favourite in this class.

We are promised something yet more novel in *Turner's Sir John Cathcart.* Those of your readers who have seen the beautiful representation of it in the *Florist,* will judge what is in store for them.

In yellow grounds, I must just mention *Parker's Great Britain,* a bold and attractive flower. In selfs, what have we to beat *Handasyde's Duke of Perth?* I know not: yet a few more may be added, for variety. *Thomson's* Druid is a pleasing claret colour; *Hooper's Nox* is a good purple; so is *Dornie & Co.'s St. Andrew,* although wanting in size; but we must stride on, until we put the Duke in the rear rank. I saw a very promising white self this season. *Hunt's Blue-eyed Maid* is clear in colour, with heavy blotch, but, I believe, is very scarce.

Amongst those letting out this season, *Dickson & Co.'s Royal Standard,* like its prototype, will float proudly on to victory. I have seen none, excepting Mariam and Miss Talbot, which can at all bear comparison with it; and I trust I shall hear my humble encomiums responded to from both sides the Tweed, when the return of another blooming season gratifies the cultivator by spreading before him fair Flora's treasures.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

ESCALLONIA MACRANTHA.—A splendid evergreen. In the nursery of Messrs. Fisher, Holmes, & Co., Sheffield, a plant, six feet high, was literally covered with crimson flowers. It had stood out the previous winter. Should it prove sufficiently hardy to stand severe cold, it will be a most valuable acquisition.

Several fine and new mimuluses have flowered with Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Son, of Wellington-road, St. John's Wood. The best are,

M. Purpureus Maculata.—Rich rose colour, with crimson centre. Very striking.

M. Laingii.—Also a crimson-centered flower, the margin being bronzy pink.

M. Rubinus Perfecta.—Orange, with dark crimson belting.

M. Sagi Huras.—Rich yellow, with distinct crimson blotch on the petals.

Mr. G. Smith, of Tollington-road Nursery, is sending out the following three splendid fuchsias:—

Glory (Banks).—Rich scarlet, the petals well reflexed, showing the large purple corolla to advantage. It is a flower of great substance, and will prove an acquisition to the exhibition tent.

Mrs. Patterson.—White, with a purple corolla, very large and distinct. A splendid sort.

Lady Franklin.—Also a white tube, with purplish pink corolla. Excellent habit. In fact, all three are first-rate.

GERANIUMS.—*Foster's Shylock* is a rich, very dark, and new variety. The upper petals are nearly black, with scarlet margin; the lower ones fine shaded purple. Of fine habit, and flowers profusely. In

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fancies, Mr. Ayres has a nice thing, called *Formosissima*. The lower petals are white, margined with purplish crimson; the upper ones being of a beautiful shaded crimson, with white margin. Blooms profusely, and is a most beautiful variety.

CINERARIAS.—*Catherine Seaton* (Henderson) has a white centre, the other portion of the petals being rich pink. Of extra form and habit. *Hammersmith Beauty* (Ivery) will also be found an acquisition, being of excellent form and novel in colour. Light blue, with white centre. To these may be added *Mrs. Sidney Herbert*, a fine white, with a narrow belt of light crimson.

Some good things have lately been raised in pansies. Independent of Sir J. Cathcart (Turner), and Sir J. Paxton (Betteridge), noticed in a previous number, there is *Yellow Model* (Downie & Laird), fine in colour and form, with a rich and decided blotch. *Sovereign* (Dickson & Co.) is also a splendid yellow self. *Mrs. Blackwood* (Downie & Laird), excellent in form, white ground, with light purple belt.

In fruits, there are several first-rate melons coming out this season. *Golden Queen* is of fine flavour, not very large, the rind extremely thin. It has a very high character from eminent gardeners in the neighbourhood of York, where seeds may be obtained. *Incomparable* is a green-fleshed melon, raised by Mr. Austen, of Truro, in Cornwall, extremely productive, and of excellent flavour.

CUCUMBERS.—Of course their name is legion. We have *Model*, stated, "without exception, to be the finest variety of the season." Then *Hunter's Long Prolific*, "the only one that has obtained a silver medal at the Royal Botanic Garden, Regent's Park." *Essex Hero* also is a splendid black spine, "that has

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given general satisfaction;" and lastly, *Tiley's Captivation* and *Phenomena*, of which the vender says, "as cucumbers for exhibition, they are not yet equalled." We content ourselves with putting their names on record, leaving it to our gardening friends to make their own selection.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

KATE CONNOR.

We have received the following explanation relative to the above tulip, which we willingly insert. At the same time we must respectfully decline the other portion of Mr. Slater's letter. It will not interest our readers to know that he has been nearly worried by "*a malicious cur of his own neighbourhood, called* 'Waxy.'" Such a style will not do. If a "Looker-on" is mistaken, we are quite sure he will apologize to Mr. Slater; and earnestly do we hope that the latter will find by experience, that innuendo and abuse are not the way to gain or keep friends. We could draw his attention also to several unfounded assertions, published in the *Review*, which he did not apologize for, when their falsity were fully proved. How then can he expect commiseration from others, if he also suffer from similar usage? We forgive Mr. Slater for all the injury he has *tried* to do us, and hope we shall never again have occasion to speak of him, except in terms of commendation.

"Kate Connor is a seedling from Newcastle, and bloomed the first time in 1844, and that root was sent the same year to the late John Shelmerdine, of Altrincham, leaving me only a maiden bloomer and some small pieces. The large root blooming in 1845, was sent to G. W. Hardy, Esq., of Warrington, leaving me as before, with only a maiden root. This bloomed in 1846, and was sold to Mr. Peter Deane, of Carrington, Cheshire. This year Queen Philippa

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bloomed; so that three roots, with a few offsets, sent to the neighbourhood of Blackburn, were parted with previous to Queen Philippa blooming. In 1847, again only one bloomed, and a seedling from the same sowing of seed, No. 17, of which three were planted and only one bloomed, and this so much like Kate Connor that myself and others considered it the same; consequently all of that number were thrown amongst the true ones, thus causing confusion, and I have never bloomed one correct from my own stock since, but expect to do so this year."

PETUNIA (NIEREMBERGIA) INTERMEDIA.

BY ALPHA.

TWENTY years have scarcely passed away since this pretty little plant was first raised from South American seeds, in the garden of the late Dr. Neill, when a high opinion was formed of it by plant growers generally. For some time it was extensively cultivated, and no collection was considered complete without it; but as its beauty and worth consist in compact growth, and a profusion of interesting little flowers, from April to November, and not in the production of large high-coloured blossoms of only a few weeks' duration, the prevailing taste of recent years, for showy flowers, has driven this once favourite plant nearly out of cultivation. It is also somewhat delicate, and soon shows its impatience of improper treatment, of which it has had a large share; for, notwithstanding that it is a native of the warm sandy plains of Buenos Ayres, it has been planted and potted in rich heavy soil, and very liberally watered; and because it did not thrive under such circumstances, many discarded it as difficult to manage. For the decoration of the greenhouse, during the summer months, for placing in the sitting-room window, or for planting in masses among half-hardy

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plants, it is a really valuable plant, provided its habits are respected.

Cuttings should be selected of firm pieces of young wood, such as have not begun to produce flowers, planted in light sandy soil, covered with a bell-glass, and placed for a fortnight in a shady part of a cold frame, and then removed where the temperature may be from sixty to seventy degrees; thus treated, they will be sufficienty rooted for potting off in about a month or five weeks. This petunia is difficult to winter in a soft state, and as some time is required to get up nice plants with well-matured wood, the cuttings should be got in before the end of June; and where a stock for out-door planting is required, it will be adviseable to grow a few plants to furnish cuttings at the proper season. Pot singly in four-inch pots, as soon as the cuttings are sufficiently rooted, using light rich sandy soil, and place them in a close moist frame until they have made some progress; afterwards, gradually accustom to a free circulation of air, and full exposure to the sun's rays, in order to get the wood well ripened. An airy situation, free from damp, and where the temperature may average about forty degrees, will suit during winter. Those intended for planting out, should be hardened during spring, by free exposure to air, on mild days, but they had better be kept growing slowly, and if they can be shifted into five-inch pots, this will assist in keeping them healthy and in having good plants at turning-out time, which will produce immediate effect. A warm sheltered situation, with light rich sandy soil and thorough drainage, is indispensable.

The plants intended to be grown in pots, should be nice compact specimens, in five-inch pots, before winter, and should be induced to start into free growth as early in spring as circumstances will permit. About the middle or end of February will be a proper time for placing the plants in a temperature of from fifty to sixty degrees, keeping them near the glass, and admitting air freely on mild days. As soon

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as they are moderately rooted, shift into pots one or two sizes larger than those they occupy, according to the vigour of the plants. Very fine healthy specimens may be allowed eight-inch pots, while a size smaller will be more suitable for such as are not so promising. Stop rather closely, and tie out the principal shoots; maintain a moist atmosphere, but water carefully till they appear to have taken to the fresh soil, especially any that were pot bound. Keep them growing as freely during the spring as can be done without inducing weakly growth. Beginners will probably experience considerable difficulty in getting some of their intended specimens to make a good start: and they will act wisely in being prepared with a few extra plants, which will enable them to throw failures away, without inconvenience; for once get this plant into bad health, and it is not easily recovered. If all goes on well, they will be handsome specimens, covered with flowers, by the middle of May, and should be placed in the greenhouse when its usual occupants are placed out of doors. Any of the specimens that have filled their pots well with roots, will be benefited by a shift, and all by occasional waterings with clear weak manure water. When they have done flowering, which, if they are properly treated, will not be until well into the autumn, they may be thrown to the rubbish heap, as young plants occupy less space during winter, and generally make better specimens than old ones kept after flowering.

The best soil for the pot culture of this plant, is turfy sandy loam and fibrous peat, in about equal proportions, which should be broken up into small pieces, rejecting all that is not full of fibre. To four parts of this, add one of sharp silver-sand, and one of clean small potsherds. A small quantity of thoroughly decayed cow-dung, passed through a fine sieve, to free it from worms, intimately mixed with the compost, will be useful to healthy plants, especially in the final shift.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

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OBITUARY.

DIED, on the 30th of November last, in the 79th year of his age, JOSEPH TYSO, of Wallingford, Berks. The lovers of floriculture have lost, in the demise of this venerable gentleman, one of its earliest supporters. At the close of the last century, he was found in the west of England, promoting by his example and precept, a taste for gardening; and in 1803, at Shelston, in Cornwall, he saw the first ranunculus—a self-coloured flower—imported from the Continent. He was enamoured with it, and obtained and cultivated it as at that time a most attractive novelty. Finding it could be grown in the open ground, he sought to increase his stock by culture and by purchase, and as it became increasingly a favourite, to improve the race by new varieties, from seeds, in which, as was generally known, he was more successful than any cultivator in England. For many years he pursued floriculture as a source of personal gratification, and when induced to dispose of his surplus stock, he devoted the profits to charitable purposes, until his son was of an age to embrace the pursuit as a profession. He was an early contributor to *Loudon's Gardeners' Magazine*, and to many subsequent periodicals, and was well known to Davey Miller, Sweet, Brown, and connoisseurs of that school. He was universally respected as a Christian, as a cheerful and amiable friend, and as a scholar. His acquaintance with the Hebrew and Greek languages led him to write on some obscure parts of the prophetical scriptures, which circumstance introduced him to several learned professors, and to many of the clergy of various denominations. His end was peace. He died calmly in the faith of those truths of Christianity which he had endeavoured to inculcate through a long and honourable life. It will evidence the respect and esteem in which he was held in the neighbourhood, that his funeral was attended by about two hundred persons, comprising every shade of political and religious opinion.

REVIEWS.

THE GARDENERS' RECORD. Edited by Mr. J. T. Neville. *London; Groombridge & Sons.*

THIS is a very neat periodical. The papers on various branches of floriculture are interesting and well

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written. That by Mr. Barnes, of Camden Nursery, on the culture of the fuchsia, is practical and good. We wish the remarks by an amateur, on the establishment of a garden, for the growth of seedling flowers, by the National Floricultural Society, had been written in a more kindly spirit. It is observations of this kind which keep up sectarian and party feeling, which in everything, whether politics, religion, or floriculture, always retards progress. We quite agree with J. Davidson, Esq. as to the propriety of revising the lists of tulips, and think that his plan is very feasible, and ought to be adopted by every society in the kingdom. We see the following remark in the calendar of animated nature, "*Felix maniculata* (house cat) *begins to pur.*" Ours do this all the year round, when they are pleased. We like the botanical exploratory notices, and trust that our friend has as good a circulation amongst florists as the merit of his work deserves.

Part III.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

In the *Midland Florist* for February there is a paper on forcing strawberries. As I do not know the writer, I must trouble you for a little more information, as I am building a pit. The depth and breadth are the same as your correspondent's, W. S. M. M., but only ten feet long. Now the 1st question will be, the best method of heating. 2nd. The construction of the furnace and flues. 3rd. The situation of the furnace in frame, and size of ditto. 4th. The depth of the flues and furnace from the top of frame. An early answer will oblige. ROWLAND.

On looking over the schedule of prizes offered to be competed for at the great national tulip exhibition, to be held at Nottingham, the forthcoming season, and finding your name among those of the committee appointed to carry out the same, I beg to call your attention to what appears to be an oversight

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on the part of those who drew up the schedule, and which, if not rectified, I fear may lead to great inconvenience to the judges. I allude to that part of the schedule in which it specifies a given number of flowers in each class, feathered and flamed. Does this last word imply a feather and flame flower? or does it mean a flame only, without feather? As it now reads, it is left to the discretion of competitors to put in either or both sorts, as suits their fancy, which might cause great trouble and unpleasantness to the umpires, which should, if possible, be avoided. You will remember what occurred at Derby, on this subject. For the encouragement of the class of flowers with flame only, I would, if I might, suggest that one class, say class B, should be for flamed flowers only or left open to the discretion of the showers. Knowing your willingness to rectify any apparent error, and your desire that the great national tulip exhibition should be carried out in the fairest manner, and to the fullest extent, I trust will be a sufficient excuse for my troubling you with these remarks.

Melton Mowbray, Feb. 16, 1853. R. ORSON.

[In class B. the exhibiter may put either simple feathers, or flame and feather, or, as we call them in the midland and northern counties, *flames*. All that he has to attend to is, that four shall be bizarres, four byblœmens, and four roses. The term feathered and flamed of each class means a class wholly feathered, and a class wholly flamed, or flamed and feathered. We would not advise any one to put a single beamed flower in his stand, as we fear it would be a point against him.]

I have read with great pleasure and delight the rambles and observations on florists' flowers, but I must beg leave to express my disappointment in not hearing any mention made of a beautiful rose flake carnation, named Tongue's Prudence, shown at the towns exhibition, at Derby; I think, if I mistake not, it was shown in the Leicester stand, but being a stranger, and short of time, I had not the opportunity of making any inquiry about it. I heard some little dispute about it being like Greasley's Village Maid, but I am convinced it is a finer sort; it is one at least that I should like to purchase, but I cannot find it in any catalogue. Perhaps you can give me some information respecting it, in your next number of the *Midland Florist*. There has been a flower called Tongue's Seedling shown at Leicester several years, and I think Z. made some allusion to one at the Royal Nursery, Slough: is it the same? I should be glad to know if it is to be bought this season.

Tickhill, Yorkshire. H. W.

[Tongue's Prudence was raised at Ruddington, near Nottingham. It is, as our correspondent observes, a fine rose flake. It can be purchased for five shillings per pair.]

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Will you please to tell me the names of some of the best Scotch Hollyhocks? I have the best of the English varieties, and am anxious to increase my collection with anything really good. I. H. S.

[The following are very good, and our correspondent may obtain them of Messrs. Downie & Laird, or Mr. Stark, nurserymen, Edinburgh:—

Captain Peat (Downie & Laird).—A delightfully-formed flower. Forms a good spike. Bright rose.

Henry Shiels (Downie & Laird).—A rich marone, with a shade of purple. Very fine.

Lady Hay (Downie & Laird).—Splendid marone. One of the best of its colour.

Marchioness of Lothian (Ballantyne).—Delicate pink. Very beautiful, and of fine form.

Professor Syme (Downie & Laird).—Extra large and fine show flower. Rich purple.

William Hume (Downie & Laird).—This is also a splendid sort. Fine spike, colour purplish crimson. Extremely attractive and good.

Sir D. Wedderburn (Currie).—A splendid sort, admired by every one who saw it in our nursery. Deep crimson.

Sir D. Dundas (Downie & Laird).—Bronzy chocolate. One of the best shaped hollyhocks grown.

Robert Burns (Ballantyne).—Rich purple, good in form, and first-rate show flower.

Uncle Tom (Downie & Laird).—One of the newest. A rich and glossy black. Very splendid.

Quiver (Downie & Laird).—Vivid scarlet. Very good.

Richard Cobden (Downie & Laird).—This is also of first-rate form. Colour light marone

The above are some of the very best Scotch flowers, and will not fail to gratify our correspondent.]

H. Seymour, *Dundee.*—Your query as to rhododendrons we can answer briefly. They will graft well, and will also grow budded; but we prefer the former method. Six of the best it would be difficult to select, as there are now so many good ones in cultivation, but the following we can recommend:—

R. Jacksonii.—Bright rose, blotched with a lighter colour. Very richly spotted.

R. Blatteum.—Shaded cinnamon and rose. Richly spotted. Very fine and attractive.

R. Victoria (Waterer).—Splendid shaded purplish crimson.

R. Cinnamonum Cummingii.—This we have seen in very splendid style. Pure white, beautifully spotted.

R. Victoria (Pince).—Rich purple.

R. Albertii.—Very delicate pink, nicely spotted. Most beautiful.

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LAYERING ROSES.—W. T.—You should have put the young shoots down, and *tongued* them. You would have found no difficulty then. You ask us to give a series of papers on propagation of hardy plants. We perhaps might make you a nurseryman. We recollect, some years ago, a gentleman of "*an inquiring turn of mind*" coming into our employer's nursery, and, supposing he was not seen, he pulled up some layers of evergreens, to see how they were done. After that, he propagated his own.

FANCY GERANIUMS.—ADA.—You may get the sorts you enumerate of Mr. Turner, of Slough; Messrs. E. G. Henderson & Son, St. John's Wood, London; Mr. Dobson, Isleworth; Bass & Brown, Sudbury, Suffolk, and of most extensive geranium growers.

W. HOWARD.—The pinks you allude to are termed north country varieties. They are "pretty, but small." We would advise you to get some such sorts as Cant's Criterion, Turner's Sarah, Narborough Buck, &c. cross breed, by impregpation, save seed, and raise new varieties. As you say you have abundance of leisure, we cannot recommend to you a more interesting pursuit.

FRAGARIA.—Ingram's Prince of Wales you will find noticed in another place.

THE NATIONAL TULIP SHOW.—R. A.—Everything is arranged. Our committees pull well together, and are sanguine as to the result. By all means endeavour to rouse your neighbourhood; if you have no growers, that is the very reason why the show should be held there. If it were to take place in your magnificent gardens, we are sure you would soon have amateurs spring up around you.

VARIEGATED GERANIUMS.—ELIZABETH H.—Some of the newest we have not seen; but *Dandy* is very compact in habit, and for edging to a small bed, would doubtless answer your purpose. *Lady Plymouth* is variegated with white; and one raised by Mr. Mangles is also good. *Henderson's Golden Admiration* is spoken highly of. The flowers are scarlet, and the foliage well marked with rich yellow.

PEARS.—J. PEARCE.—Some of the varieties you enumerate, have not proved fine so far north as Nottingham. You will find Beaurré d'Aumalis a splendid sort, large, bearing well, and of first-rate flavour. Ripens in October. It is rather spreading in its habit. Broompark appears to bear in the same style as the Hessel, ripens about the latter end of November, and has much the flavour of a good Swanegg pear. Either or both of these will answer your purpose well.

WILLIAM YATES.—Get Augustine Mie, Baron Hallez, and Reine des Fleurs. Manetti stocks will be best for you.

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W. C.—Your remarks are replied to by Mr. Dodwell, in the descriptive list, and will appear in our next issue.

George Haynes.—Our notice of apples, in the present number, will meet your query.

MY GARDEN.

No. III.

At the time that I write, a sharp frost and a considerable fall of snow have completely stopped outdoor operations, except so far as attending to heaps of compost is concerned: no digging or planting can be done just now. All kinds of plants are so forward, that a more than usual amount of diligence will be needed to be secure against the ravages of "Jack Frost," whether his reign be a long one, or he make only an occasional visit. Tulips must on no account be exposed to frost: one sharp night would materially injure the coming bloom. During open weather, an occasional gentle shower will be beneficial. During the month of March, we may expect sudden hailstorms,—the tulip bed should, therefore, be covered over with some kind of net. Haythorn's hexagon garden net is the best I have met with for such a purpose, but is not sufficient to secure against a sharp frost; some other protection must therefore be prepared. For my own bed, I use an article called frigi domo, prepared by Mr. E. T. Archer, Oxford-street, London. With these two, the tulip grower may feel his pets secure, the former to be used by day and the latter at night. Auriculas and polyanthuses are beginning to grow fast, and water must be increased in proportion. Pinks and pansies in beds should be secured against cutting winds, and the surface of the soil stirred occasionally. A top-dressing may be applied at the end of the month. Pansies in pots will soon begin to afford considerable interest, and will well reward the attentive cultivator. Amongst the best of the new varieties

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are, Fearless, Marchioness of Bath, National, Sir J. Cathcart, and Sir J. Paxton. Carnations and picotees require just now a large portion of the florist's time; as they will soon begin to grow more freely, the watering pot must be brought into use, but not indiscriminately. Weakly kinds or plants must on no account be watered so much as their stronger companions, or they will soon perish. Should the weather be favourable, potting may be begun about the middle of the month, commencing, of course, with the stronger plants. Set them in frames for a time, if possible; but if these cannot be spared for such a purpose, small hand-glasses, or flower pots, placed over the plants, in severe weather, will do as well. Hollyhocks may be planted out at the end of March, though it would be better to shift them into larger pots early in the month; they would then be more ready for planting out in April. Dahlias may now be potted, and put in any warm house, or a hotbed, to give a supply of cuttings, which may be easily struck, either singly, in small thumb pots, or round the edges of larger pots. I prefer the former plan. Where a large stock of plants is required for bedding out, as scarlet geraniums, verbenas, fuchsias, &c. cuttings should be freely taken, and struck in a hotbed, or over the flues of a greenhouse. Tender annuals should now be sown in pots, to be ready for planting out in the open border, in May or June.

In the greenhouse, thorough cleanliness must be observed, no greenfly allowed, and the watering pot more freely used. Pelargoniums require constant attention, as to training, syringing once or twice a week, and occasionally weak liquid manure. Fuchsias and roses in pots will require training; they will bear a considerable amount of moisture, both from the syringe and watering pot. Epacrises will soon begin to show their charming flowers; the soil of those that are in full vigour, should be thoroughly saturated.

J. J. C.

Feb. 15th, 1853.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

[Continued from page 77.]

ROSE FLAKES.

Antonio (May).—Evidently a seedling from Flora's Garland, which it much resembles in its character, but with rather a stouter petal and smoother edge. The colour is very pale, and sometimes there is a deficiency of it. Size large. First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1850.

Ariel (May).—One of the earliest of this noted raiser's, first bloomed in 1846. Sent out in 1847. Remarkable for its brilliant crimson markings, which contrast admirably with its good white, and with flowers of a paler hue. Petal of medium width, good substance, and gently cupped; full without confusion, and well formed. Medium size. Like *many other first-rate* carnations and picotees, this variety, to be seen in its best character, must be bloomed upon a card, as otherwise it reflexes upon the pod, and becomes insignificant in its appearance. A correspondent has requested me to state, why I thought an objection with a *show of reason*, but only a show, might be taken against the practice of blooming these flowers on cards? and intimated an inclination to a different conclusion, and some thought of propounding it, should my remarks prove unsatisfactory. Of course I cannot hope to satisfy every inquirer, nor do I intend to engage in a controversy; but I will shortly state here, that it appears to me it may be urged, that to place a card under the expanding petals, so that they shall be guided in that expansion, is to pervert or disguise the natural habit of the flower, and thus the inexperienced may be deluded. This, I think, is the *show* of reason, and it is only a *show*, because, were it valid, it would tell, with equal force, against every labour of the florist (and all art), the most simple as the most complex, and every change produced in the flower from the first moment of its adoption. Every thoughtful florist is aware that he is engaged in a strife with nature,—amicable certainly, because there can be no violation of nature's laws, without an instant loss of all that is striven for,—but still a strife, in which, by skill and intelligence, he seeks to evolve hidden beauties. Thus it is as legitimate so to place a card as to

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arrest the drooping petal, and give to it a shape it otherwise would not possess, as it is to train the plant, prune a fruit tree, dig, manure, or water, or otherwise care for those objects on which we have been commanded to "exercise our intelligence." And the same train of reasoning justifies the "dressing" of the flower, another practice very superficially condemned. We know that whatever is imperfect in nature, man is commanded to perfect according to his ability, and therefore no objection can be valid which directs itself against an *advantage*, or *improvement* created by the art of man. To be valid and of force, it must be shown that the aid is an injury, and destructive to beauty pre-existing.

Benedict (May).—Sent out last autumn, and, unless I am mistaken, will prove a most desirable variety, being of good size and full, with a very smooth, nicely rounded, and well marked petal. First bloomed in 1851. A good grower.

Friar Lawrence (May).—Also sent out last autumn. If it comes as already seen, it will be a *trimmer*, being very rich, bright, and fine in colour; of full size, and with a petal of capital shape. The grass is small, close-jointed, and apparently prolific. First bloomed in 1851.

Flora's Garland (Brooks).—Very appropriately named. A flower which has created (perhaps) more pleasure, and has to answer for more disappointment than any other. For who has not seen this magnificent variety and longed for it? Who has not been tantalized with its fickle growth? In good character, it is the most commanding flower grown,—full, and of the largest size, and full of colour, which, though pale, is well and very regularly distributed. The petal is broad and smooth, and the white clear. Raised at Baptist Mills, St. Paul's, Bristol, and first bloomed either twenty-nine or thirty years ago. It is the very oldest flower in this list, and it is, perhaps, one of the highest compliments I could pay it, to say it is still *indispensable*. It is very erect, stiff, and brittle in its habit of growth, and requires much care during the winter and spring months, but when fairly *off*, will bear *driving* as well as any. Very slow to increase.

Haidee.—Raised by Mr. Wood, of the Coppice Nurseries, from Ely's Lady Ely, and first bloomed in 1850. A truly superb flower; large and full, and well crowned, with a petal of fine shape, broad, smooth, and of extra substance. The colour is exceedingly rich and refined, and very regularly and liberally (a great point in a good thing) distributed. The white is clear, and it is a fine grower. Were it earlier in bloom, it would have few competitors.

Lady Ely (Ely).—Sent out in 1839. A sport from Duke of Bedford, C.B. It has been the parent of many fine varieties, and is still a most beautiful flower; hard indeed to be beaten, if in its best character. Like the Duke of Bedford, it grows

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very indifferently here, and requires a rest from blooming every other year;—then it is prime. It has a finely-shaped and smooth petal, good substance, rich and very regular colours, and good white. As it ages, the petals are apt to become loose and shaky in the pod. Will bear seed freely, if carefully impregnated.

Lady Gardiner (Ely).—Raised from William Caxton, C.B., and sent out in 1839. Very different to the preceding, in its habit of growth, being broad and strong in its grass; but nevertheless requires great care to do it well, for it is what I term a *sulky grower*, and always ready to seize upon any excuse for taking leave of the cultivator. In its best character, it is a splendid flower, but it is inconstant, and often very inferior. The pod is rather "dumpy," and the first blooms will often be troublesome to get out without a "split." When fine, the petal is smooth, of medium width, and of good, or fine substance; white very clear, and the markings of deep crimson rose, very bold and regular; the flower being well crowned and of good size. At other times, it is very serrated. Stimulants should not be applied.

Lorenzo (May).—First bloomed in 1846, sent out in 1847. A flower which has occupied so much attention lately that but little is left to say about it. If not the *very best* of its class, it is *amongst* the *very best*;—indeed, when in its best character, it will be beaten by nothing but its time of bloom, being early; for, despite the fact that it is thin, it has so fine a habit, gently and gracefully cupped, that it is easy to remedy the want of a bold crown, which naturally it suffers from. Its regularity of marking, finely shaped petal, smoothness, good white and rich colour, though pale, will please every one. It is a good grower, though requiring some care to winter, and will bloom best from strong pipings, or plants not overgrown. Remarkably long-lived in its bloom, like Premier and one or two others; a most desirable characteristic.

Lovely Ann (Ely).—Raised from Wakefield's Paul Pry, C.B., and sent out in 1836. Much the best R.F. bearing Mr. Ely's name, though Lady Ely is shown probably twice as often. As used to be the fashion, some years ago, when the trade in flowers was not so healthy as it now is, spurious varieties have been largely distributed for this. In fact, in my experience, I have bloomed no less than *nine* Lovely Anns, and many florists do not, now, know the true one. Lovely Ann correct, and in good character, is indeed lovely:—the petal broad, very smooth, gently cupped, of good substance, and rich texture; the white clear, and the colour, a *rich* rose—not a *deep* rose—admirably distributed. The distribution is not as in Lady Ely, in stripes of almost uniform width in every petal, but of varied widths, giving the flower a less stiff, and a more sweet and *simple* character,—to my taste, far more

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engaging—though Ann, like some other very lovely ladies, can, upon occasion, be quite sufficiently *commanding* in her style. Of average size when well grown, and well crowned, without any confusion. The habit of grass is narrow, curled, and if touched with greenfly, will become twisted and distorted. A delicate grower, and requires careful treatment during the winter and early spring months. Must be grown in a kind generous soil, and as the buds swell, two or three applications of clear manure water will much advantage the bloom.

Magnificent (Schofield).—Raised from Lady Gardiner, R.F., crossed Lovely Ann, R.F. First bloomed in 1849, and sent out during the past autumn. Having grown this variety, at Messrs. Schofield's request, for trial, I can speak of it as being well worthy the name it bears, and an addition which adds another grace to a class rich in fine flowers. Both in the flower, and in the habit of grass it shows its parentage very distinctly; not so strong in the grass, but of a kinder growth than Lady Gardiner, whilst the flower has the rich quality of Lovely Ann. The petal is broad, of good substance, and smooth; the white clear, and the markings very decided. Colour a pale scarlet or orange rose. It must not be overdone, or it will sport. Size average. .

Madame Sontag (Puxley).—Sent out in 1850. How we can get beyond this variety, for delightful habit, colour, and quality, I do not know. It is rare indeed. Just sufficiently cupped, richer and more full of colour than Lovely Ann, very smooth, and of extra substance, it will puzzle us for years to come, I fear, to beat it, provided it continues as good as it has hitherto been. Then it is of good size, and admirably crowned. It is not so vigorous as the majority of Mr. Puxley's flowers in its growth, and smaller and more refined in its grass; but rather open and succulent, requiring care in wintering. When, however, growth has once set in, it goes away very freely, and will enjoy a little stimulant—not gross *heavy wet*, but champagne, light and sparkling. Colour rich cherry rose. Apparently not inclined to sport.

Poor Tom (May).—Evidently a seedling from Ariel, which it much resembles, with the improvement of a broader petal. Colour deep crimson rose; not brighter but deeper than Ariel, exceedingly rich, and distributed in broad regular stripes. Edges smooth. A well-crowned fine flower. First bloomed in 1850, sent out last autumn. I have a "notion," to borrow a word from our friends in America, that both Ariel and Lorenzo were raised from Lady Ely. Whether my readers will think this "notion" has any business here, is quite another matter.

Princess Royal (Puxley).—Sent out, I believe, in 1846. Extremely like Garland, with a colour a shade or two deeper;

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and none who have seen it in its best character can do other than appreciate it. A very robust, stout habit of grass; and requires an open airy situation thoroughly to enjoy itself, at least I never could persuade it to like the confinement of my late place.

Prudence (Tongue).—Quite an old fashioned flower, that is for colour, for it is a *salmon* flake; yet it is such as I cannot at all consent to give up, innovator as I am. (I trust I shall wound no friend in this playful allusion to a name which has been applied to me, whilst I show my practical "conservatism." Descriptive list writing is even more prosy than a calendar, and some little *play* must be tolerated, or I am sure the *boy* will be dreadfully dull.) A really fine, full, and full-sized flower; petal broad, smooth, gently cupped, and of good substance; white good, and the colour very liberally distributed and regular. Raised in the neighbourhood of Nottingham. I believe, not yet generally out. In class showing this variety would be "put back," because its colour is pale, whereas, contrasted with a fiery crimson, or scarlet rose, on a stand, a grace otherwise absent would be obtained; hence my liking for that mode of showing, and the *fairer* play it gives to true variety.

Romeo (May).—First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1850. A seedling from Flora's Garland. Colour rather more pale than the parent, white exquisite, texture very rich, petal broad and cupped. In proper character, smooth; if not well grown, apt to come serrated. Size very large, not so full as Garland, and, like that variety, stiff and hard in its habit of grass, and crotchety in its growth.

[The following has been kindly communicated by Mr. William Baildon.]

Lady of the Manor (Baildon), R.F.—Raised from Chadwick's Fair Flora, R.F., from seed presented to me by Mr. A. Hartley. First bloomed in 1847, sent out in 1850. A very robust and fine grower, possesses fine form and large petal. The colour is a high rose when the flower is young, but grows paler as it ages; the white good. It is a very early variety; will not carry more than two or three blooms to a plant.

Constellation (Baildon), R.F.—From the same pod of seed with the above, but of very different character. The colour is a very high crimson, and like all high-coloured flowers, inclined to sport. It has a finely-formed and stout petal, and the marking is very distinct and bold. In some seasons, the white is apt to be flushed. First bloomed in 1848, and sent out in 1851.

Companion, P.F., was raised by Mr. John Netherwood, of Deighton, near Huddersfield, whether from mixed seed, or other-

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wise, I have not been informed; but as Mr. N. grows but few carnations, I am inclined to think very little notice has been taken of it, till it took a first prize at Halifax, in 1851, when he determined to let it out. It is a very strong healthy grower, and has fully maintained its character as a first-class flower.

Henry Hunt, P.F., was raised from mixed seed, by the late Mr. Francis Marchant, of Elland. As he was one of the old school of florists, he never kept his seed separate. It, also, is of very robust habit, has a fine petal, good white, and cheerful colour;—similar to Taylor's Lord Byron, but much larger. Is rather late in blooming. Sent out in 1850.

Sir Robert Peel, S.B., by the same raiser, was first exhibited in 1845, when the judges thought it Hepworth's Brilliant, a variety which never comes with more than twelve or thirteen petals, and Mr. M. having plucked it down to fifteen petals or thereabouts, it did much resemble it. It makes spindling layers, similar to Hamlet, S.B., has exquisitely smooth petals, and in this respect has very few equals. The colours are brilliant, and the marking bold; its only drawback being the white, which is not good until the flower is about a week old. I have, however, seen it on several occasions without this drawback, and then it is indeed first-rate.

Music, S.B., is a Lancashire flower, let out by S. Brierley, of Rochdale, but was not raised by him, as I have been informed. It is a flower of excellent form and petal, the white also good, but the marking is too fine, or in other words, the stripes are too narrow. Occasionally it comes without this defect. However, it is one I should place with the best six.

As a good northern flower, you must not omit *Ely's Mango*, which, in my opinion, is the A. 1 of the P.F's, not excepting even Premier. It is the nearest approach to perfection in form of anything I know, is very early, of fine habit, and when in good condition, rises to a good height. The pod is long, of a dark green colour, unlike most other varieties. The petal is of exquisite shape, smooth, and the white very good. The colour bright purple, somewhat of the Beauty of Woodhouse shade, but more rosy. The marking is all that can be desired, about four stripes to a petal, of equal width, and proportionate to the white. Apt to spindle after layering, or in early spring. Colour of grass a beautiful blue-green. Does not show much increase, and must be in fine condition to bring a good bloom.

[The following is by Mr. James Scholefield, of Mossley, near Ashton-under-Lyne.]

Warrior (Slater), C.B.—First bloomed in 1848. Supposed to be from Lord Milton, but this is not certain.* A flower of

* Its habit of growth would indicate Paul Pry as the parent.—E.S D.

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average size, not very full, requiring a little dressing to bring it to the standard of form. The petal is very smooth, not cupped, of medium width, and good substance. The white very good, and the colours, dark marone and bright crimson, well contrasted and regularly distributed. The pod is long, terminating in a sharp point, similar to Paul Pry. Not a vigorous grower, and rather late in its period of bloom.

[To be continued.]

NEW ROSES FOR 1853.

You have requested me to send you a descriptive list of some new roses, and I hasten to comply with your wishes. I have seen a few which will, I am sure, prove great acquisitions, to even the select collections you already have in England. As might be expected, there are some which bear considerable affinity to Geant des Batailles, being seedlings from it, though certainly improved in form. Some again there are, which are altogether of new colours, and are very striking. Still the greatest fancy here is for hybrid perpetuals and other ever-blooming roses, noisettes, &c. Speaking of the latter, there is a very beautiful and novel one raised by Lille, and called

Eudoxie.—It is large and full. Exteriorly the petals are white, whilst towards the centre they are light flesh, with a salmon or orange shade. It is a robust grower, and bears abundance of flowers.

But the greatest increase is in that important class, hybrid perpetuals.

Madame Lecureux Fraipont is a seedling from Geant. The same brilliant colour, but each petal is tipped and mottled with white. This, however, only applies to the first flowers, those which are produced in autumn being self-coloured; still the ensuing spring, they are again mottled. It was raised by M. Cherfim.

Imperatrice Josephine.—I hardly know how to convey to you a better idea of this magnificent rose than to tell you to imagine Souvenir de Malmaison a hybrid perpetual. It is much of the same colour, size, and form, flowering most abundantly and well. This, I am certain, will become a great favourite.

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Reine de Castille.—This was originated by the same person as the preceding, M. Lartay, and is a wholly different style. The odour also is extremely powerful. It is large in size and well formed, and the colour is a vivid and brilliant scarlet, shaded with a darker tint, the petals having the appearance of velvet. Very splendid.

Triomphe de Paris is also very beautiful. The flowers are large, very deep red, shaded with purple. This is a decided novelty and a superb rose.

Fernand.—Another seedling from Geant des Batailles, a rich shaded scarlet, of fine form. It bears its flowers very closely and in great abundance.

Laffay has also raised some fine seedlings, which will be sold out for the first time this season. Amongst them,

James Veitch stands pre-eminent, being not only splendidly formed, but a strikingly beautiful deep rose colour. It has been greatly admired here, and I have no doubt will be a sort much sought after with you.

In tea-scented Chinese roses we have several good things here, and the best that I have seen are,

Canary, raised by M. Guillot. It is of robust habit, and flowers most profusely, extremely double, and of a tint approaching more to orange than yellow.

Lartay's Vierge de Samos is really a splendid sort. Of extra fine form, very large and double, and of a beautifully pure white.

Both these are flowers of great merit. In Bourbon roses there is not so much novelty, several of the new ones being hardly any improvement on others already out. Perhaps

Dr. Leprestre is one of the best and most distinct. It is a rich and deep purplish red, finely shaded with scarlet; flowers abundantly, and certainly is a very superior rose.

Flamboyant also is strikingly beautiful, being a vivid scarlet. It has been very successfully exhibited this past season.

I may also mention

Laffay's Paxton, a very large and splendid rose, bearing its flowers in large clusters. The colour is bright rose, with a darker shade.

Independent of those previously named, there are some others which I have not seen. These must

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remain till a future opportunity, when I hope to be enabled to give you another list of really fine ones. I know M. Van Houtte, of Ghent, has most of the novelties originated on the continent, and I have no doubt any of your friends might there obtain them at a reasonable price.

R. S.

Malines.

BEDDING PLANTS.

THE following list of bedding plants will perhaps be useful to your readers. I am not altogether an advocate for discarding everything else, for the sake of bedding plants, when we have such beautiful things among our hardy herbaceous and perennial plants; but no one will deny the superiority of a scarlet geranium, or a calceolaria, over many of our old annuals, by which our gardens were at one time crowded. Still there are many annuals possessing great beauty, when well grown, and I shall introduce the best of them into the following list. I may remark, that before turning out, the plants should be properly hardened and well established in their pots, as plants just taken from the propagating frame, and at once exposed to the influence of the weather, are but poor subjects to depend upon for a summer or autumn's decoration of a flower garden. It should also be borne in mind, that the plants should always receive a good *watering* previous to turning out, for if they are planted in a bed of dry soil, it is some time before the ball of earth in which they are growing becomes moist; consequently, instead of a free healthy start, the plants wither and die. In the following list, it will be seen that I have not been sparing in speaking of the faults of the plants, as well as of their beauties, for which, perhaps, I may have a word or two that I may not like; but, how-

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ever, I must speak as I find them, therefore, to begin alphabetically, I shall commence with

Alonsoa Grandiflora.—Where there are a great number of beds, &c. to be filled, this will be found useful. It is of neat compact growth, but the flowers, which are scarlet, are not produced in sufficient quantities to make it valuable. Height about one foot. It may be propagated either by seeds or cuttings.

Ageratum Mexicanum.—A most beautiful thing for a large bed, being of very handsome habit and producing abundance of its lovely blossoms for a length of time. Height about eighteen inches. Propagated by cuttings. There is also a white variety, but it is of little use as a bedding plant.

Anemone Japonica.—A very handsome hardy plant, growing about a foot high. The flowers, which are red, are numerously produced. It blooms rather late in the autumn. Ought to be in every garden.

Antirrhinums are known to every one as handsome, hardy, free-flowering plants, that will grow almost anywhere. Perhaps the best way to obtain them is to procure a packet of seed from some known grower; but should a desirable variety be produced, then recourse must be had to cuttings. Of the named varieties, permit me to recommend *Edwards's Primrose Perfection*, a plant of beautiful habit, with fine large flowers, of good form and numerously produced. There is also the double white makes a capital thing for a bed. In growing antirrhinums, the seed stems should be removed, for the purpose of making the plants keep up a succession of bloom.

Alyssum Variegata.—This is a most useful plant for edging large beds, where its beautiful variegated foliage has a fine effect. The flowers, which are white, are numerously produced. It also does well for mixing with verbenas, for being of free growth, it covers the beds sooner; but it should be carefully thinned as the verbenas begin to grow. It grows from six inches to a foot high, and is propagated by cuttings.

Anagallis.—These were at one time great favourites with the flower gardener, but as we have now such a host of better things, I cannot recommend them, on account of their straggling habit, and being apt to die off by patches. The best are *Phillipsii* and *Brewerii* (blue), *Carnea grandiflora* (flesh colour), and *Rosea grandiflora.*

Cuphea Platycentra.—This is very neat in its habit of growth, its dark green foliage and pretty scarlet flowers contrasting well with its gayer neighbours. It should be included in every collection. *C. strigillosa* is also an excellent thing, much gayer than platycentra. It grows about eighteen inches high, compact habit, colour red and yellow. *S. sanguinea* is

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similar to the last-named in habit, but the flowers are of a deep red.

Cineraria Ameliodes makes a tolerable good bed, but I do not altogether like it, as it does not continue in bloom so long as some other plants; still, in large collections it will be found useful. The flowers are blue, with a yellow centre. It grows from a foot to eighteen inches high.

Calceolaria.—Of these, *Kentish Hero* must take the lead. Its large handsome flowers, produced with the greatest freedom, make it very valuable. *Sulphurea splendidissima* is a most excellent yellow kind; also *Wellington Hero*, a new variety, with brilliant orange blooms. Of the other shades of yellow, *Amplexicaulis*, *Florabunda*, *Integrifolia*, *Viscosissima*, *Kayii*, *Cayeana*, *Aurantiaca*, *Superb*, are all good. There is also the old *Rugosa* does well to mix with Tom Thumb geraniums; and *Frostii*, a very dwarf-growing sort, suitable for small beds. Of the dark kinds, *Superb* will be found an addition; *Indian Chief* and the *Marquis of Northampton* are also good. I may here mention that Messrs Weeks advertise a collection of fifty new varieties, from which we may expect some fine additions to this valuable genus.

Dahlias.—Except the dwarf-growing kinds, I need not say anything of these. I grow one, called *Ignea*, with crimson purple flowers, and for a large bed, it cannot be surpassed, even by the scarlet geranium. I plant them thick, same as geraniums, and they receive no more care than the other beds. It grows about eighteen inches high, but a good strong edging to the bed is necessary to keep the plants up, otherwise they would look rather ragged round the outside. Perhaps the best thing for this purpose is the common ivy, clipped so as to form a low hedge. The oak also answers well for this purpose. It may be raised from acorns, but requires renewing every five or six years.

Fuchsia.—Of this splendid genus, I know nothing superior to *Globosa*, for bedding, it being of free growth and a great bloomer. It also answers admirably as a rock plant, or for vases, or it does well for edging large beds of taller-growing plants. The old *Fulgens* also makes a good bed, its handsome foliage adding to its beauty. I have also seen *Corymbiflora* grown as a standard, in which way it has a fine effect. I recollect once seeing a large bed of fuchsias planted as follows:—Down the centre of the bed was placed a row of standard Corymbifloras, round these a quantity of tall Fulgens, and then the Globosa. They were edged by the variegated alyssum, which gave the bed a good finish, the whole having a fine effect.

Gaillardia Picta.—Red and yellow. Grows about a foot high. A very useful thing.

Gazania Uniflora.—A useful plant for a low bed. Its flowers,

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which are yellow, are not very striking, but its handsome foliage and neat habit make up for this. It grows about six inches high *G. rigens* is a fine thing, but does not do for bedding, as it does not grow fast enough.

Geraniums.—Of the scarlets, the following are the best for moderate sized beds:—*Tom Thumb, Tom Thumb's Master, Trentham,* and *Prince of Wales;* and for large beds, *Punch, Conway's Royalist,* and the old *Shrubland.* The old *Frogmore* must not be forgotton, as it makes a good edging. Then there is the old *Compacta,* with red flowers, makes a good thing for standards, being of upright growth. Standard geraniums have a fine effect, planted in the way recommended for fuchsias, Compacta in the centre, surrounded by Shrubland, and then Tom Thumb, with the same edging as the fuchsias. *Commander-in-Chief* makes a good bed, being of compact growth, with a good truss, and the flowers of a different shade to the majority of scarlets. Of the new ones, *Shrubland Pet* did not turn out to my expectation, not flowering sufficiently; but I shall give it another trial, as I think my soil was too rich for it. *Amazon* is a good kind for a large bed. Of the pink-flowering kinds, *Tom Thumb's Bride* and *Judy* are the best I know, that have had a fair trial; and of the new ones, *Lady Homesdale* may be worth growing; but we are in want of something better than these. The gem of the season was *Hendersonii,* a variety with white flowers, very numerously produced. Of the variegated kinds, Mangle's Pink is the best I know, being a good grower, with plenty of flower. *Flower of the Day* may do for a small bed, but it must be thickly planted, as it is a shy grower. *Mountain of Light* I can say nothing about. Both the pink and white ivy-leaved are very good for small beds. *Rollinson's Unique* makes a good deep purple, but it requires a little attention to pegging down. *Diadementum Superbum* makes a very pretty red bed.

Humea Elegans.—In sheltered situations, this fine biennial should not be forgotten. Planted singly, on lawns, its beautiful grasslike flowers have a very pretty effect.

Heliotropium Corymbosum is a most valuable plant for a large bed. I have often seen it planted with geraniums, in which way it is not near so handsome as when alone. *Voltaireanum* I do not like, as the foliage is so scant and the growth straggling. I have a much better opinion of *Voltaireanum nana,* as it is a compact grower. I cannot say much for *Salter's Gem,* as it is scarcely distinguishable from Voltaireanum; the only difference that I could see was a little lighter colour in the flowers.

Lantana Sellowii.—Light purple, a very neat compact-growing plant, producing numerous heads of its pretty blossoms. This is one of those plants that should be grown in every

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garden. Height about six inches. It is rather tender, and consequently should not be planted out too early. There is also a variety bearing orange flowers, the name of which I forget. It grows about a foot high, its handsome foliage adding to its beauty.

Lobelia Erinus and *Erinus Grandiflora* are both useful plants. They grow about six inches high. *Erinus compacta* is quite a gem. Nothing can equal this plant for a small blue bed. It also makes a good edging for large beds. *Erinus ramosoides* is also a very valuable plant. *Erinus compacta alba* is a fine thing for a small white bed.

Lupinus Nanus.—This fine annual makes a good bed of blue. It should be sown the beginning of April. It grows about a foot high.

Martynia Fragrans.—Also an annual. Height about eighteen inches. Its fine foliage and fragrant flowers make it valuable.

Nierembergia Gracilis makes a very pretty light bed. Height about six inches. Should be planted thick.

Plumbago Larpentæ.—This once-highly-extolled plant will be found useful, as its brown-looking foliage and neat habit serve to recommend it. Its flowers, which are blue, are too short-lived. It is quite hardy, the same bed may stand for years.

Phlox Drummondii.—A very pretty half hardy annual, a fine plant for bedding. Height from a foot to eighteen inches. Its colours vary from pure white to the deepest crimson. *Leopoldii*, similar to the above, the flowers having a white centre. *Mayii variegata*, a handsome thing, each flower being beautifully variegated with lilac and white. *Thompsonii*, a very brilliant crimson, that should be included everywhere.

Petunias.—*Shrubland Rose* makes a fine bed; as does *Beauty Supreme*, purple, of compact habit. *Superb* is small, but makes a good bed when planted thickly. *Young's Crimson King* is by far the best crimson. I generally raise a good quantity of these from seed.

Pentstemon Gentianoides and *Gentianoides Alba* are both fine things for large beds. They grow from eighteen inches to two feet high. The old plants should be left year after year, as they bloom much better than the young ones.

Roses.—The China roses are extensively used in the more southern counties, but they will not do for the north. For this purpose, where can we have a finer thing than that splendid flower, *Geant des Batailles?* It is always in bloom, the summer through. Then there is *Standard of Marengo*, I believe, will prove of great value for the same purpose, as with me it bloomed finely during last autumn, its brilliant flowers being not at all inferior to the Geant. Add to these, *Barrone Prevost*, *Duchess of Sutherland*, *La Reine*, and *Marquise Bocella*.

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Sanvitalia Procumbems makes a good yellow bed, being a very neat grower. Height about twelve inches.

Salvia Patens—Blue. Was at one time a great favourite, but I cannot say much in its favour now, as its flowers fall too soon. *Fulgens* does very well for large beds, late in the autumn. *Azurea compacta* makes a good bed, coming into bloom early, and keeping on till the frosts cut it back. It grows about a foot high, and is quite hardy.

Senecio Elegans.—Both the double red and double white make very good beds, particularly some of the dwarf-growing kinds. They grow about a foot high.

Verbenas.—These are so well known as to require no description from me. They look much the best when each variety can be planted separate. The best are, *Defiance*, scarlet; *Duchess*, blush, with pink centre; *Eclipse*, blush, pink stripes; *Mont Blanch*, white; *Emperor of China*, crimson; *Emma*, purple; *Psyche*, rose purple, crimson centre; *St. Margaret*, crimson, with dark centre; *John Salter*, rose; *Mrs. Mills*, fine dark blue; *Ormsey Beauty*, fine bluish purple; *Duchess of Kent*, white and pink; and *Orlando*, a very fine blue.

Zauschneria Californica, let out some time since as a bedding plant, is of little value, its habit of growth being too straggling, and not sufficient flower. It is quite hardy.

W. S. M. M.

REMARKS ON THE LATE "TOWNS EXHIBITION" OF CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES; ALSO ON THE MARKING OF A BIZARRE CARNATION.

BY OBSERVER.

THE observations on the "towns exhibition" of carnations and picotees, by Z., which appeared in the last volume of the *Midland Florist*, have undoubtedly been read with great interest by the admirers and growers of those flowers, but by none, I believe more so than by myself. I experienced no small degree of delight at that exhibition; but the splendid array of those favourite flowers, the carnation and picotee, engrossed almost the whole of my attention, as I had never before seen so fine a collection of flowers as was staged on that memorable occasion.

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In a passing glance at the flowers exhibited by the members of the Midland Horticultural Society, my attention was arrested by a bloom of that very beautiful picotee, Marris's Prince of Wales.* It was placed third in its class. The first was Julio Romano, and the second, Mrs. Norman, both being splendid flowers, and heavily marked; but each had barred petals, whilst the Prince, though but a trifle smaller, and not quite so dense in colour, was purity itself. The three blooms were exhibited by that very successful cultivator, E. S. Dodwell, Esq., of Derby.

Here the following query suggests itself. Do the growers of that locality prefer a large flower, with a blemish in its markings, to a smaller one, when correctly marked? In other words, is purity to give way to size? I do not wish it to be understood that I am a lover of small flowers, but, on the contrary, I cordially agree with the observations made by the above-named gentleman, in a late number of this publication, where he facetiously remarks that staging small flowers is like "putting a boy to do a man's work."

The above was the only visible error, if such it can be termed, that I noticed in the placing of the blooms exhibited by the members of the Midland Society, in classes;—and it should be remembered that we northerns consider class showing the only mode of testing the excellence and properties of individual flowers.

I afterwards examined the flowers staged for competition by the several towns exhibiters, and, taken collectively, I never saw finer blooms, the majority of them being first-rate specimens; and I do not hesitate to say, that those produced by the amateurs of Derby, fairly obtained their post of honour; but, as Z. has truly observed, several of them showed, by their split petals, very unskilful treatment in dressing. Where strict competition is the order of the day, the

* The editor of the *Floricultural Review* states it to be surpassed *in every respect* by Harrison's Picnic, but I, myself, have not been so successful with this latter variety, as with the Prince.—Obs.

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fault of split—or rather cracked—petals ought to be taken into consideration ere the prizes are awarded; more particularly as Z., old florist as he is, unhesitatingly states this fault to be "a serious one, and telling much against an exhibiter;" but, as the rules on that occasion did not embrace the point, no question appears to have arisen on it.

In the stands of the Derby amateurs, I observed three seedlings, deserving of commendation; and I doubt not but that they will create some "sensation" in the floral community. They were a scarlet bizarre, and a scarlet flake, carnations, and a heavy purple picotee,—the last a noble flower. I understood they were raised by Mr. Bayley, of Derby.

In the stand contributed by the Nottingham florists, I was much struck with a seedling rose flake, Taylor's Lucia.

The seedling rose flake, Magnificent, exhibited in the stand from Leeds, by Messrs. Scholefield & Son, was a *magnificent* flower indeed.

In the stand exhibited by the Yorkites, I noticed a bloom of True Briton, scarlet bizarre, which would have passed for a tolerable scarlet flake, if the two or three bizarre petals it contained had been extracted. This certainly was a disqualifying point, but, the other flowers being passable, it was overlooked.

Amongst the flowers contributed by the Leicester amateurs, were two very meritorious varieties, Hudson's Duke of Rutland, purple flake, of fair average size, fine in colour and marking, but, from inquiries I have made, I learn that it is a late variety, and also very *scarce;* and Tongue's Prudence, rose flake. I heard a remark made in the county hall, by a florist of Derby, that this flower was only a good specimen of Greasley's Village Maid; this, however, is not the fact, as I have been positively assured, on an inquiry I made a short time ago, that it was raised at Ruddington, near Nottingham.

The stand of carnations from Edinburgh contained some splendid specimens, which undoubtedly ranked

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with the very finest blooms in the whole exhibition. To the uninitiated, it appeared a perfect mystery why these fine blooms were disqualified; but to the practised eye the defect was palpable, and created no little sympathy for the unlucky exhibiter. I wish to observe, that in addition to the condemning point of the stand—a self petal—there was another defect, which ought not to be overlooked; that, though the blooms were full and finely formed, in the bizarre varieties, there was a great deficiency in marking, many of the petals being merely flakes, and not possessing an iota of bizarre.

It is a matter of importance, to cultivators and exhibiters, that a fair definition of the markings of a a bizarre carnation should be discussed and settled, and I am fully borne out in this assertion from the fact of a writer, in a recently introduced floral publication, the *Gardener's Record*, having taken a novel view of the subject. He states "that scarlet bizarres are distinguished by having two colours on a white ground; and that there must be *scarlet and white* in every petal; and that in crimson bizarres there must be rose and white in each petal; and in pink and purple bizarres, there must be pink and white in every petal." But query, does not this style of marking constitute a flake flower? He further proceeds, "thus rigid are the laws of the amateur florist, as respects this beautiful class of flowers." "In the north," he adds, "it is the aim of the florist to exhibit *the three colours in each petal*, and to acquire this, the blooms are stripped of all others, they reducing them to mere skeletons. The southerns, however, are more merciful in allowing petals which are in reality only the *petals of a flake*, to be exhibited in bizarres (which, perchance, may amount to five or six in number, in a single bloom), the flowers are therefore considerably larger and very superior in form."

The above extract is an apt illustration of the mode pursued by the Scottish amateur, in dressing his flowers for the "towns exhibition;" and it raises

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a question on the point contended for by several cultivators of the day, that "size" is a *sine qua non*, whilst purity and marking are secondary qualities. It also affords a key to the observation on the smallness of the flowers alluded to by Z. as contributed by the florists of Leeds and Wakefield, for it was evident that, in dressing their blooms, they had adopted the mode above alluded to; consequently, by denuding their flowers of all imperfect petals, they caused them to assume the "flat and pancake-like" appearance ascribed to them. It is admitted by all growers that a large expanded flower, whose petals "lie well," has a decided advantage over one dressed *a-la-pancake* fashion; but the question is, how can we northerns be prevailed on to abandon our mode of dressing, without adopting the method advocated in the *Gardeners' Record.* We have always adhered to the rule, that, as constituting one of the properties of a "bizarre," each petal shall possess three colours, though we do not require them in alternate stripes, yet we insist on that number of colours appearing in each individual petal; hence our blooms have earned the terms "loose," and "butterfly" appearance, which are consequent upon the extraction of *all* imperfect petals.

Strongly feeling the necessity for this requisition, I shall illustrate the point by extracts from the published opinions of some of the leading florists of the times.

The late THOMAS HOGG, who was no mean judge of a good flower, states, in his treatise on the cultivation of the carnation, that "bizarre is an epithet or adjective, borrowed from the French, implying whimsical or fantastical; hence, bizarre, applied to a carnation, means that it contains a whimsical or fantastical mixture of colours, of not less than *three* distinct tints or shades."

MR. GLENNY states, in his "Properties of Florists' Flowers," that in bizarre carnations, "the colours must be bright and clear, whatever they may be;

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if there be two colours, the darker one cannot be too dark, or form too strong a contrast with the lighter. With scarlet, the perfection would be a black; with pink, there cannot be too deep a crimson; with lilac, a light purple, and the second purple cannot be too dark a purple."

In an essay on the carnation, by the EDITOR of this publication, he states, on the properties of a scarlet bizarre, "that each petal should be striped with two colours, scarlet and a dark marone, on a white ground, varying in intensity in different sorts. In crimson bizarres, the stripes also to consist of two colours, but approaching more in their tint to a rose colour and purple." He adds further, that "in bizarres, the colours should as much as possible balance, though I am well aware there is often a great preponderance of one or the other; still, to see the stripes running parallel to each other, and distributed equally over the flower, is certainly a near approach to perfection, as far as colour goes."

In an article on the carnation, by the editor of the *Floricultural Review*, he observes, that "the petals should be well defined and marked. In a scarlet bizarre, each petal ought to have the *three* colours, as if they were ribbons of the colour placed on a petal of white paper. The same may be said of pink and crimson bizarres."

In the rules of the Cambridge Horticultural Society, the committee for judging florists' flowers deemed it essential to introduce a clause, stating that "bizarre carnations must *have three colours* in every petal."

I could adduce further authorities, but, I presume, the foregoing will suffice.

In conclusion, I wish to direct the cultivator's attention to the point I am contending for, and I should be gratified if your correspondent, Z., would give the matter a turn over in his contemplative mind, and favour us with his ideas, which, coming

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from so experienced a florist, would be doubly acceptable.

It is now definitively settled that the National Carnation and Picotee Society's next exhibition will be held at "ye antient citie" of York; and I think it desirable that the point I have alluded to should be settled on a firm basis and promulgated without delay. I would also suggest to the York committee, the propriety, if not expediency, of sketching out some rules to meet the points I have alluded to at the commencement of my observations—that split, or cracked petals, shall *not* be a disqualification, but a *point* telling against a stand; and also that no flake petals be allowed in bizarre carnations.

Part II.

NEW FLOWERS,

EXHIBITED AT THE NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY'S MEETINGS, DURING LAST AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to the flowers which have passed the ordeal of the National Floricultural Society. We cannot speak in too high terms of the manner in which it is carried out; and from what we know of the ability of the gentlemen who have acted as censors, we are quite sure our readers may purchase these flowers with perfect confidence.

A first-class certificate to dahlia, *Sir John Franklin*. Colour orange buff; size medium; form good; centre well defined and prominent. From Mr. C. Turner, Royal Nursery, Slough.

A first-class certificate for dahlia, *Lord Byron*. Colour rosy salmon; outline first-rate; centre good; petal cupped; size medium. From Mr. John Keynes, Salisbury.

A first-class certificate to rose, *Prince Albert* (Bourbon). Colour brilliant deep crimson purple; form good; blooms freely. From Messrs. A. Paul & Sons, Cheshunt.

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Certificate of merit to hollyhock, *Crimson Perfection.* Colour very bright; form good; size large. From Messrs. A. Paul & Sons, Cheshunt.

Certificate of merit to phlox, *Spencerii* (herbaceous). Colour rosy purple; centre light; truss large, close, and compact; of very dwarf habit. From Mr. C. Turner, Royal Nursery, Slough.

Certificate of merit to dahlia, *Queen Victoria.* Colour yellow, tipped with purple; outline fine; petal cupped and smooth; size above medium; centre middling. From Mr. Wheeler, Warminster.

Label of commendation to hollyhock, *Daniel O'Rourke,* being somewhat distinct in colour. From Mr. Bircham, Hedenham Rosary, Bungay.

Label of commendation to dahlia, *Wonderful.* Colour lemon, with blotches and stripes of red; a fancy variety, with some novelty. From Mr. J. Keynes, Salisbury.

A first-class certificate to dahlia, *Lilac King.* Colour dark lilac; form good; centre prominent; size medium. From Mr. G. Rawlings, Bethnal Green-road.

A first-class certificate to dahlia, *Queen Victoria,* described at former meeting. The centre was, however, considerably improved. From Mr. G. Wheeler, Warminster.

A first-class certificate to dahlia, *Miss Caroline.* Colour blush white, slightly tipped with purple; centre good; size medium. From Mr. Brittle, Birmingham.

A first-class certificate to gladiolus, *Mrs. C. Beale.* Colour salmon, slightly flaked, lower petal striped with rose; size large. From J. Wilmore, Esq., V.P., Birmingham.

A first-class certificate to hollyhock, *White Globe.* Colour pearly white; size medium; form very first-rate. From Messrs. A. Paul & Sons, Cheshunt.

Certificate of merit to dahlia, *Amazon.* Colour white ground, boldly tipped with lake; size medium. From Mr. G. Holmes, Norwich.

Certificate of merit to dahlia, *Brilliant.* Colour bright scarlet; size large; centre full; form medium. From Mr. G. Rawlings, Bethnal Green-road.

Certificate of merit to gladiolus, *Gem.* Colour orange scarlet, base of petal buff, lower petals marked with rich crimson. From J. Wilmore, Esq., V.P., Birmingham.

Certificate of merit to hollyhock, *Remus.* Colour bright rose; size medium, From Messrs. A. Paul & Sons, Cheshunt.

Certificate of merit to hollyhock, *Lavinia.* Colour pale salmon; size large; novel, as being of a new shade of colour. From Messrs. A. Paul & Sons, Cheshunt.

Label of commendation to dahlia, *Unanimity.* Colour orange buff, regularly flaked with dull red. From Mr. John Edwards, Holloway.

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A first-class certificate to Tigridia, a seedling from Conchiflora. In colours and form excessively superior to its parent. From Dr. Maclean, Colchester.

Certificate of merit to dahlia, *Beauty of the Grove*. Colour straw, slightly tipped purple; centre good; petals slightly ribbed. From Mr. Burgess, Chelsea.

A label of commendation to dahlia, *Miss Matthews*. Colour red, tipped white; petal and outline good; centre fair. There being an insufficient number of blooms, no higher award could be made. From Mr. W. R. Bragg, Slough.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE NOTTINGHAM MEETING OF THE GREAT NATIONAL TULIP SOCIETY.

THINKING that a few remarks on this great gathering of the lovers of this queen of flowers, and the schedule of prizes provided by the committee for this meeting, may prove interesting to the readers of the *Midland Florist*, I venture to say a word or two on the subject.

As one of the committee, it fell to my lot to take rather a prominent part in the formation of our schedule, for which reason I may be able the better to explain any little mystery which does not appear quite clear to a few of our friends.

We have great confidence of its working well, although we have ventured to strike out some new features. For instance, we think the time is come when twelve first-rate varieties can be found to take the first prize; if so, why should we allow six to win? Variety is charming in all things, and we think in nothing more so than the tulip. Besides, we live in an age of progress, and surely we may try to improve upon the past; and I am proud to say, many esteemed friends think we have so done, for we have received many letters, very much commending our work, from our tulip-growing friends in different parts of the country. In fact, it appears to have given nearly universal satisfaction, which the most sanguine of us could hardly have expected, when striving to cater for so many growers, in so many districts, when it is remembered that almost every neighbourhood has its peculiar arrangements for its local exhibitions, for stands, classes, purity, single specimens, and all the rest of it.

Still I regret to say, we have not pleased all. A few of our friends find fault with us. One or two say we offer *monster* prizes, and *too many of them;* so much so, that it will deter

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other towns, for the future, from taking it up. Now we really did not expect fault to be found with us for being too liberal.

If our timid friends will believe us, we assure them that in making our arrangements, we had a single eye to getting up a first-rate exhibition, for we thought we were so central, that Nottingham stood most favourably for such an undertaking. We, therefore, determined to offer good prizes and plenty of them, so that all exhibiters might hope to take home prizes, and be delighted with their visit.

For our part, we cannot see why our friends in other towns should not try to *beat* us, which may be done by experience. Surely it cannot be supposed that all the spirit of the tulip fancy is centred in our town. *We* do not think so for a moment.

Another friend did not see through our conditions quite so clearly as he could wish. I will endeavour to enlighten him if I can, although I must confess, we thought we had made them as plain as possible.

In the first place, I would say, that it is our anxious wish that the great growers may win good prizes; but at the same time, not take all before them, but leave the small ones an opportunity to slip in with their smaller number of perhaps as good flowers. To this end, we leave class B. open to them for dissimilar blooms, knowing well that limited growers are often short of a flower or two, and perhaps could not cut six feathered and six flamed and feathered flowers, when they are often able to cut nine or ten first-rate flames. Therefore we say to the stagers for class A., if you wish to win a prize in class B. you must put up another stand of twelve for class B., bearing in mind that all losing stands in either class will be eligible to compete in class C.

It must be borne in mind also, that we do not intend any flower or stand of flowers to win more than one prize, so the *full* exhibiter, who pays fifteen shillings, may put up as many stands as he can,--one in each class, if he can cut so many blooms. His flowers will never be beaten out until all the prizes are taken up. We should advise every intending exhibiter to subscribe the full amount, as the best policy. We should also advise any person who has a splendid flower in any class, if he can spare it from his stands, to reserve it for class D., single specimens.

Seedlings will also be eligible for class D., if able to beat the old sorts; and a certificate of merit will also, in that case, be sure to be attached to such flowers.

In conclusion, I may say, in our endeavour to please, and get up a good show, we have acted entirely upon our own responsibility, as we considered every town that takes upon itself the duty of these matters, is alone responsible, and every succeeding meeting is totally independent of its predecessor.

I make these remarks, because a south country gentleman hints at a dictatorship, in his remarks, from parties who have

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got up these exhibitions before, in other towns. *If this gentleman think so*, I can tell him he never made a greater mistake, and one which proves how totally he is unacquainted with the characters of the highly respectable gentlemen who have acted as honorary secretaries, and the spirit of these exhibitions; and we would most respectfully suggest, that it is high time a gentleman of such talents lent his aid in support of these national exhibitions.

W. R. LYMBERY.

Ison Green, Nottinghamshire, March 15th, 1853.

ON DRESSING FLOWERS.

[*From the Florist.*]

TWENTY-SIX years ago come next June, I first saw a box of cut pink blooms to be taken to an exhibition, where a selection out of that box gained the first prize. Afterwards I was admitted by the nurseryman, near whom I had recently gone to live, into the arcana of his art, and was witness to the "milliner's trickery," as your correspondent, Philip Havapek, not inaptly calls it, and scrutinized the form and nice adaptation of the instrument employed, and saw the slow and laborious process by which, through its means, a pink is fitted to shine amongst its compeers, like a young lady at a ball. And as I pondered over the matter, now marvelling at the skill of the operator, now despairing of attaining to his tact, it struck me, as it has struck your correspondent, that there is something very unnatural in all this, and calculated to mislead the public, by establishing a deceptive difference between shown flowers and grown flowers.

But as I have since considerably modified my opinion, and become reconciled to the practice, it is fair to ask whether I can give a sufficient reason for having done so. And this I will try to do.

In the first place, wildness is not a fair representation of nature, any more than license is of liberty, or a savage the genuine type of a man. The same

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process of reasoning, if pushed to its legitimate limits, would forbid us to graft or to bud. We must not prune a rose tree or train a fuchsia into shape by the knife. To stop a pelargonium, and to tie out or peg down its branches, would be tailors' trickery; and in fact, the striking from cuttings itself, is an unnatural process, and must be abandoned. We broke into *the principle* when we became cultivators, and the practice must now be tried on far narrower and less sweeping grounds.

Again, no pink of the present day, and all but no carnation and picotee, can bloom without splitting its calyx and becoming utterly unsightly, unless the calyx is supported by a tie. And this is dressing, as much as the disposal of the petals after expansion. If this be equally objected to, as it often is, the objection is really against having double flowers (which are unnatural), for no single dianthus splits its pod. But if we will not be content without having double flowers, and no good reason can be given why we should, we must be content to take the trouble which they entail; just as when we choose to have flowers in pots, or exotics in a conservatory, we place them in an unnatural condition, and may no longer leave them to unaided nature.

Moreover, the process of dressing is applicable but to few flowers. Philip Havapek has enumerated nearly all of them; and the objection is really no stronger than you have stated in your note to his communication. At the period I have alluded to, there were a few pinks (there were no carnations even then) useless to the amateur who did not exhibit, but which, by pains, might be made to push others, intrinsically better than themselves, from their place at a show. But there are none now. The good may be made to look better, but none unworthy of a place in any selection can now by such means be rendered fit for exhibition. Therefore the public deception caused by the practice is reduced within microscopic limits. Would there were no more glaring causes

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of deception for the public to complain of! Very few flowers admit of much manipulation. Your correspondent will never be led far astray by the pelargonium dresser; nor is the practice common with that flower. My friend and floral guide, Mr. Beck, made it an objection, in these pages, against Crusader, that it required that operation; an objection that proves the practice not to be general, or it would have no meaning. And he was so right, that I have since discarded that variety for the fault. In fact, no other flowers than those of the pink tribe require more preparation from the "milliner" than Philip Havapek would himself unconsciously perform upon a rose before he presented it to a young lady,—namely, by depriving it of its thorns, and of whatever is dead and unsightly, or would detract from the beauty of the offering, and by presenting it in its most attractive form; and in the pink tribe, the practice must be judged of simply as a matter of competition before judges, like the modes of preparing cattle for an agricultural meeting, in which we consumers are no further interested than as it is a means by which the beef and mutton of the country in general is better than it used to be. The system is part and parcel, though a small one, of that adaptation of means to requirement, by which the old greenhouse, with its straggling unsightly stems, with here and there a spare blossom, has given place to a well ordered collection of healthy and shapely trees, which, each in its turn, become masses of bloom in their season.

IOTA.

[The following remarks are from the pen of our friend, Mr. Dodwell, of Derby.]

Allow me to offer one word in defence of the poor florist, and in vindication of his practice of "dressing flowers," impeached by Philip Havapek, at p. 14 of your last issue.

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Your correspondent denounces this as "one of the most pernicious practices connected with floriculture." He tells us, "if he attends an exhibition, he is struck with admiration at the beauty of the pinks, or the picotees, or carnations; but if he becomes a purchaser, *do what he will*, they are mere mops." I beg to tell him he is speaking most mistakenly, and wide of the fact. He never has done *what he could*, or he might have realized beauty equal to that which elicited his admiration.

The evil he charges against the florist, is simply due to his determined disinclination to give time and trouble to the attainment of those objects, from which, when attained, even he cannot withhold his admiration. Your correspondent might *grow* and *display* subjects equal to anything that has been *shewn;* but he never will, so long as he hopes never to have the *inclination*. First-rate flowers, combining all possible beauties from *nature's* hands, are indeed desirable; but I fear they are what your correspondent will never realize on earth; meantime, why does he object to that beauty which he tells us has excited in him so much admiration?

The question lies in a nutshell; it is simply, Shall art be admitted to assist nature? If your correspondent negatives this, he will carry us back at once to the instincts of the savage, where most of us would decline to follow him; if he affirms it, he can show no reason why art should not be given to the *flower*, which is not equally applicable to the *plant;* a condemnation of the one is a condemnation of the other, and if valid, would apply to the splendour of the diamond, and every object of beauty art creates or enhances, and condemn all to remain in obscurity, because their beauty was conferred by the adventitious aid of man.

This is the *rationale* of "dressing flowers;" and the humble florist as correctly creates a beauty in his flowers, as does the sculptor when he gives to the shapeless stone the ideality of his genius. It may be

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desirable, in the case of new flowers, submitted for opinion, that they be seen with all their faults as well as their perfections. This may be easily enforced—my remarks apply to the *art* of dressing, and I am sure, so long as art is known, there will be a propriety in its adoption.

E. S. D.

In looking over some dahlia catalogues, I was much struck with the diversity of opinion, by first-rate growers. For instance, I find in one, "Louisa Glenny (Rawlings), *finest form, good in every shape.*" In contradistinction to this, I find in *Turner's Florist* the following opinion:—"Louisa Glenny, *golden yellow, fine form,* very small and uncertain." How is this? If I bought it on the first recommendation, I should certainly find myself wrong, if the opinion in the *Florist* is correct.—[Growth makes a great difference in these flowers; independent of which, florists, like doctors, DIFFER.]

We are anxious to take a few preliminary steps in order to arrive at a fixed standard for pinks, and shall be obliged by any of our readers who are growers of this very neat and beautiful flower, giving us, in the first place, the names of twelve of the best pinks grown in their locality; secondly, their views as to the propriety of the following division of the classes:

1 Dark lace, with white margin.
2 Purple, ditto.
3 Crimson, ditto.
4 Rose, ditto.

Again, 1 Dark, with the lace quite to the margin.
2 Purple, ditto.
3 Crimson, ditto.
4 Rose, ditto.

A third division to comprise plain pinks.

The florists of Sheffield have, in a very straightforward way, evinced their anxiety that this vexed

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question should be settled, and thus shown themselves men of progress. Our old friend, H.S.M., has previously broached the subject, and we earnestly hope, that at all pink meetings during the coming summer, the subject will be taken up in a good spirit. We will give the movement our best help, and beg to announce, that a pink show, on these principles, is already established, at the Crown Inn, Nottingham. Having thus taken the initiative in the matter, we hope to be able to give to our brother florists our opinion as to the working of the system.

Lord Byron (Taylor), P.F.—With reference to the description of this variety, which is given at page 72, Mr. Taylor has written to me as follows:—"In reading over the description of Lord Byron, P.F., I was struck with finding so many mistakes in it. My impression is you have been imposed upon. I remember, when I told the person who came from you I had no plants to part with, another person standing by offered what was inquired for, so if the plants were not right, I think I ought not to be blamed. With regard to me saying Byron was a very good second-rate, I meant to take perfection as the standard, and I never like to speak too highly of seedlings I raise myself. There must be some mistake about me saying I had never seen it in any remarkable style, because I have seen it as good as any purple flake grown. It is quite possible I might qualify it, and make use of the expression as to the bloom I had seen the *previous* season, because, as you know, the same sort will come *better* in some seasons than in others. I have no doubt the spurious sort you talk about is the real Simon Pure. Byron is of a pleasing colour, rather darker than Mango; it is an early bloomer, so that we have great difficulty in keeping it for show; and it is a broad-petalled flower, and cupped, the petals of Mango being quite straight, and it forms the very best back I have ever seen. The grass of Mango is bluer than Lord Byron's, and Mango flowers about a week sooner." On inquiry, I find the person commissioned by me to obtain plants of Lord Byron from Mr. Taylor, did not procure them from him, and I very much indeed regret that in the absence of this knowledge, I have fallen into the error of supposing that *true* which Mr. Taylor's statement indubitably proves to be spurious. Mr. Taylor's description of Lord Byron tallies very accurately with the variety supposed in my description to be spurious. The conversation I had with Mr. Taylor is (according to my memory) very correctly reported, though of course Mr. Taylor might refer to standards and circumstances unknown to me. I will endeavour to get the supposed spurious variety proved during

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the coming blooming season. Whatever it may be, it is worth growing in any selection.—E. S. DODWELL.

A MAY SONG FOR THE MIDLAND FLORIST,

CONTAINING HINTS FOR THE TULIP SHOW.

HUMBLY DEDICATED TO THE MAYOR OF NOTTINGHAM.

LADS and lasses, come away,
This is Flora's holiday;
Offerings bring,
Flowers of the genial spring.
Come, come away,
And to her raise a roundelay.

In Nottingham she holds her court,
Where all her subjects do resort;
There, spic and span,
Will amateur and nurseryman
Each one appear
At her first levee of the year.

Quickly, come, her bowers entwine
With roses, heaths, and eglantine;
Her throne prepare
With orchids and exotics rare;
And at her feet
Let slipperworts and pansies meet.

Crown her tables richly dight
With cups of gold and ivory white;
Baskets fill
With cineraria and cranesbill;*
And all around
Let choicest fruits and flowers abound.

Trees and plants from every land,
Pines and araucarias grand;
Let Sikkim's bay†
Her gorgeous blossoms there display;
While Farmer's band
In the orchestra take their stand.

Yet, the chiefest thing of all,
In a corner next the wall,
Let there be
Refreshments for the companie,—
Pine-apple ice,
Or strawberry and cakes of rice.

Lads and lasses, dance around,
Trip like fairies o'er the ground;
Bring ye posies,
Hawthorn sweet, and wreaths of roses;
And smiling call
Upon the mayor to give a *ball*.

For mayors must always do their best
To grant sweet lasses their request;
Besides 'tis right
He should all florists there invite,
To see the flowers
Which grace the corporation bowers.

A floral soiree too will claim
His worship's patronage and name;
He must preside
While florists do their hobby ride;
Then, after all,
Put on his pumps for Flora's ball.

Lads and lasses, round ye go,—
Never mind his worship's toe;
Sure such a start
Must warm his blood and cheer his heart;
He smiles to see
Himself in such good company.

Now happy, happy, happy be,
Dance around right merrilie;
But in your hearts,
Remember him whom joy imparts;
And heaven bless ye,
And from all evil keep ye free.

PAUL YOUNG.

* *Cranesbill*, popular name for geranium.

† *Sikkimsbay, i.e.* rhododendron, or rosebay. Sikkim is famous for these plants.

REVIEWS.

THE SCOTTISH GARDENER.

BOTH this and the *Scottish Florist* are periodicals of considerable merit, published at Edinburgh, and sup-

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ported by a goodly array of gardeners and florists of the sister kingdom. The former contains excellent papers on Autumnal Roses—Propagation of Ferns—Propagation of Soft-wooded Plants—The Pansy and its Properties, &c.; whilst the latter has Observations by Mr. C. Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, on various Florists' Flowers—an interesting paper, illustrated with wood cuts, of the Elementary Tissues of Plants, and their Economical Uses, by Mr. G. Lawson—Remarks on Gardening and Gardeners—Winter Management of the Cineraria, &c. Both deserve extensive circulation, and we most cordially recommend them.

Part III.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In answer to your correspondent, "Rowland," I beg to say, that the method of heating I should prefer, would be by flues; for although there are many other ways, the greater part of them would be far more expensive, and answer the purpose no better. As regards the construction of the furnace, let it be placed at the end of the pit, on the outside; and let it be eight inches wide and deep, and fifteen inches long. The flues should be placed at the bottom of the pit, built of single brick on edge, nine inches deep, and eighteen inches wide, the inside plastered with cow dung and mortar, to prevent the escape of smoke. Covering for the flues depends upon the locality where wanted: if stone can be had cheap, it answers well. I have also seen sheet iron used, but as both are expensive here, and having, last autumn, to superintend the building of a peach house and vinery, I had some square bricks made, similar to those used for house floors, which answer the purpose very well. The flues should run round the pit, and the chimney be placed by the side of the furnace. The depth of the front flue from the glass should be twenty inches, and the back one two feet, which will allow a slope of the ashes of about four inches. The

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coal ashes should be about six inches thick. It would be adviseable to have the furnace six or eight inches below the flues, which would give a better draught, and consequently the fire would burn better. W. S. M. M.

MY GARDEN.

No. IV.

I HAVE no doubt all my brother florists, be they large or small cultivators, are thoroughly occupied with the necessary work of this time of the year. We have attended to our pets during the dull winter months, well knowing that for each hour's care, and in exact proportion to that care, our reward would come. And now we feel, day by day, increasing interest in our work, as we see the climax approaching, and are obliged to give more time to the pleasing task. One short month, and our enjoyment will be commenced; our pansies will have begun to unfold their gay blossoms, and our auriculas to display their chaste beauties, not to mention the attractions of the polyanthus and the hyacinth.

I find in "my garden" so much to be mentioned, that I cannot enlarge in my directions,—they must be, if possible, *multum in parvo*. Auriculas must not flag for want of water, and mild showers will do them much good; but the truss must on no account be allowed to get wet, if required for exhibition. Polyanthuses need the same treatment, but rather more moisture will be beneficial to them. Pansies in frames may receive occasional supplies of liquid manure, and as soon as side shoots can be obtained, let them be taken as cuttings; they will strike readily in pots, in a cold frame. The earlier these cuttings are taken the better, as they will make good plants for summer blooming, and the blooms on the parent plants, during April and May, will be much finer.

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It should also be borne in mind, that the earliest-saved seed is most likely to produce the best flowers. Continue the protection of tulips, as previously recommended. Occasional gentle showers will do them much good; and should the weather prove dry and mild, a syringing at night (the cloths being rolled down immediately after) will considerably increase their vigour. Pinks should be top-dressed at once, and if any are displaced by the frost or wind, secure them to a small stake. As soon as they begin to throw up their blooming stems, set about the work of thinning, not leaving more than two or three to each plant. Beds of ranunculuses will need protection, and occasional surface-stirring. As carnations and picotees show themselves to be at work, let the task of potting be proceeded with as quickly as possible. Directions for performing this important part of carnation culture have been so ably given in the *Midland Florist*, that it would be presumption in me, comparatively a young grower, to enlarge upon them; the best advice I can give is, take Mr. Dodwell's directions as to first principles, given in 1852, and his excellent descriptive lists, now publishing, as to the treatment of particular varieties, and though at the exhibition table you may be beaten, you will have at home (or if not, 'twill be your own fault) a fine bloom next July. Hollyhocks may now be planted. Few flowers can be arranged with better effect, as to colour, than this, on account of the "mass" of bloom it produces; let not this fact be lost sight of, or the height which the different varieties grow. Proceed with propagating dahlias, and potting them off as soon as necessary. It may be useful to know that the following varieties succeed best from the division of the old stool rather than cuttings:—Alice, Duke of Wellington, Laura Lavington, Una, Shylock, Princess Radziville, Sir R. Peel, Scarlet King, Admiral, Duke of Cambridge. Seed must be sown at once on heat, and as soon as the plants have three

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pair of leaves, let them be put in thumb pots, to be gradually hardened off. If verbenas are wanted for exhibition in pots, care must be taken that the plants are bushy and in a free-growing state. The most attractive way of training them is to wire trellises, about a foot in diameter, and raised about two inches above the level of the pot. For early shows, I put three plants in an eight-inch pot, taking care that they are of a similar size, and sufficient to cover the trellis well, six or eight weeks before the show, when they should receive the final stopping. It should also be remembered, that where verbenas are wanted to be shown in single trusses, they can be got finest from potted plants, grown in a cold frame. The best soil two-thirds loam from rotted turves, mixed with one-sixth leaf mould and one-sixth thoroughly rotted cow manure.

I find the greenfly very troublesome at this time of the year, in the greenhouse, and fumigation very necessary. Pelargoniums showing their trusses will be benefited by weak supplies of manure water. A temperature about forty-five degrees is the best for them, but the fancies will be benefited by a little higher degree of heat. As camellias go out of flower remove them to a cold frame, and by all possible means encourage a free growth. Fuchsias for blooming in June and July, should be fully at work; cuttings struck now will make good plants for August and September. Roses in pots may be watered with liquid manure, and they should frequently be syringed; great care too must be exercised in searching for the caterpillar that attacks them so commonly just now; one of them soon materially injures the look of a good plant. As cinerarias will soon be in perfection, mark three or four from which you wish to save seed, and let them be placed away from the general stock, where they can receive abundance of air.

J. J. C.

March 15th, 1853.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

[Continued from page 105.]

PICOTEES.—RED-EDGED.

Ann (Schofield).—This flower was past criticism when seen by me, but judging from its *remains*, it is one, I think, will be very useful to the exhibitor. The petals are broad and of good quality, the white free from spots or bars, the marginal colour of medium width; apparently a strong grower. Stated to have been raised from Gem, impregnated with pollen from Wildman's Isabella. I do not in any way intend to impugn this statement, but I may remark, that in my own collection and elsewhere, wherever I have seen Gem, it has always been barren, the stigma never shewing any signs of maturation, though frequently attempted to be fertilized. What is the experience of other cultivators? First bloomed in 1850, sent out last autumn.

Bellona (Marris).—Heavy-edged; dense colour, white sparkling and clear; petal broad, of good substance, and moderately smooth; medium size, rather too flat. Most cultivators will suppose this a seedling from King James; it bears, however, no relation to his Majesty, having been originated from a a flower of Mr. M.'s raising, originally from Morning Star. First bloomed in 1849, sent out last autumn. A vigorous grower.

Christabel (Costar).—Raised, I believe, from Wildman's Isabella, at Benson, in the neighbourhood of Oxford. With me, this variety was nothing like so good as the certificate of the National would imply, coming very narrow in the petal, very full, and very confused. This, however, was only another of those sports the very best even are subject to, and such as should cause all of us to ponder very carefully before we condemn awards, most deserved probably, when made, as both from Leeds and Leicester it was brought in very different style. In proper character, it is a full, well-formed flower; petal of medium breadth, narrowly margined with a solid red; white unspotted, and of good quality. A strong grower, closer than the parent in its habit, and rather late in blooming. Sent out in 1851.

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Conspicua (Fellowes).—Very conspicuous, but useless to the exhibitor. Large, but too confused, and wanting in refinement.

Duchess of Sutherland.—Light-edged. Raised by the Rev. I. Burroughes, of Lingwood Lodge, Norwich. A flower which having had the honour to be sent out as the best seedling of the day (which distinction it assuredly merited), has been reviled, and designated as flimsy and worthless, by a person of sufficient notoriety, though of no authority. The Duchess of Sutherland is neither flimsy nor worthless, though it certainly does not succeed so well as was anticipated, in various districts. Here, it is a poor grower, and will not expand freely. But having had the honour to be one of a large party who joined in the opinion above expressed, I think it well to say, that of the large number of blooms seen, from fifty to one hundred at least, there was not one which was inferior to the portrait of the flower given in the *Florist* for 1849, page 281.

Ernest (Edmonds).—Light-edged. Sent out in 1847. Large, and a full flower, free from spots and bars, but not equal to some others in richness of quality. Requires much care in blooming, and is a variety I should not recommend to the inexperienced.

Elizabeth (Robinson).—A narrow-edged heavy. Raised at Nottingham, and sent out in 1850. A large and well-formed flower; petal remarkably bold, and of good substance; colour bright, but not so regular as is necessary, being broader at the sides of the petal than in the centre; white free from spots, but not so rich in tone or quality as Mrs. Norman or Prince of Wales. Still it is a most desirable variety, being a first-rate grower, and very constant. Bearing plenty of pollen, it will be useful to the seedling raiser; but to induce it to bear seed, artificial impregnation must be attended to, as, indeed, it should be in every case. Supposed to have been raised from Duke of Wellington.

Esther (Bayley)—.A seedling from Portia, which it resembles in its habit and vigour of growth. Full-sized, and remarkable for its beautiful form and compact habit, crowning well. The petal is broad, gently cupped, smooth, of good substance, and margined very regularly with a solid band of bright colour, of medium width. Of good quality, but not so rich and sparkling in its white as Mrs. Norman or Prince of Wales; otherwise most delightful. First bloomed in 1851.

Gem (Youell).—Light-edged. Raised from Lady Flower (Burroughes), red P. First bloomed in 1845, and sent out in 1847 and 1848. A very delightful variety, no doubt the best in its class, for the purpose of the exhibitor, as it comes in well with the height of the bloom. Petal broad, well formed, of good substance moderately smooth, and gradually de-

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creasing to the crown,—sometimes it decreases rather too rapidly to give the flower a fine form, but this is not the rule. Colour bright, and confined to the edge; white clear, generally free from spots or bars, but far behind some of the heavy reds, and others of the purple and rose-edged classes, in its rich sparkling character, in which respect there is room for great improvement in the light reds. Size medium, and does not seem to be improved by over-luxuriant growth. Habit of grass short; very prolific; so much so indeed that a thinning of the weaker shoots will often be adviseable before blooming. As stated above, with me it has been invariably barren.

Giulio Romano.—Raised by the Rev. Charles Fellowes, of Shotesham Rectory, Norfolk, from mixed seed. First bloomed in 1849, and was sent out in 1851. A really delightful little flower, quite thin enough, and small, but with a nicely-shaped broad petal, first-rate white, and solid broad band of colour; good substance too, and smooth on the edges. Being thin, it is necessarily flat, and cannot be compared with two or three others in the class, though it is a variety which will please almost everyone. Grass rather small, not over robust, and will be better without strong stimulants.

Goliath (Brinklow).—Sent out, I believe, in 1849, and thrown out of my collection the succeeding season. Large enough and coarse enough, it has some of the characteristics of a giant, sufficient probably to secure its rejection where refinement is considered an essential; and to these I must add, flimsy enough too. The colour is bright and broad, and it has well-shaped petals, but they come constantly locked one into the other, so that when arranged, an immense number of grown-rents are apparent. Must be bloomed and shewn, if shewn at all, on paper.

Hogarth (Marris).—Raised from Lord Hardinge, and another heavy red, a seedling of my friend's, I believe. Sent out in 1851. A very showy, full-sized and full flower. Petal of medium breadth, nicely rounded, smooth, and of good substance. Colour dense and bright, much in the way of King James, but not so broad as that variety; white very good. A good grower.

Isabella (Wildman).—Getting into years now, as years go with picotees, but still a good old variety. Sent out in 1842, or thereabouts. Well formed and crowned, of average size, petal nicely rounded, tolerably smooth, and of good substance; white good, moderately free from bars; with a broad band of its peculiar shade of colour (a pale rosy red, slightly mottled with purple). It is an attractive and striking sort, and should be grown amongst a few even. It is a strong grower, with a flowing habit, and should not be cramped in its

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blooming quarters. Some two or three years since, a darker variety, a break of Mr. May's, was distributed, and this is much the best, being richer in its appearance. Mr. May's success in originating fine new varieties, is, I believe, without parallel in the history of the carnation and picotee, and it would seem that his good fortune not only gave him a large number of his own, but transmuted, in his hands, those of others, into something better,

James II. (Norman).—Raised from Headley's King James, impregnated with pollen from Ely's Emperor, both of the heavy-edged red class, and first bloomed in 1849. A large and commanding variety, rather too flat, as I have hitherto seen it, to be first-rate in form, but full, with a broad well-formed petal, neatly margined with a medium band of solid red. A few years ago, this would have occupied a very prominent place; now, it is very decidedly secondary to several varieties I shall presently enumerate.

Jenny Lind (Edmonds).—Sent out in 1847, when it was unquestionably the belle of its class (light-edged), as the succeeding season amply demonstrated. But Jenny very soon became fickle, and neglecting the use of Macassar, or some other of those toilet requisites to which the envious will ascribe the beauty of ladies' complexions, presented herself disfigured with ugly spots and cross-bars, a fashion to me so very distasteful, that malgrè great reluctance, I felt compelled to banish her from my collection.

King James.—Raised by Richard Headley, Esq., of Stapleford, near Cambridge, from Barrand's Cornelius, impregnated with pollen from Sharp's Hector. Of all the "breaks" which seedling raisers have originated, this perhaps is one of the most striking, and likely to be most pregnant of results. As a flower for the *exhibitor*, King James has not been, and is not likely to be, of that service which perhaps was expected from it, being small and too flat; but for colour it is unrivalled, and no collection should be without it. The white is rich and free from spots, and the *outline* exquisite. It bears pollen freely, and already some of the most splendid flowers in existence have been originated from it. I should recommend a *cross* in every case, as it is rather *hard* in its habit of growth, and does not root freely. I learn from Mr. Headley, that he has two or three seedlings from it, which he considers superior to the far-famed Mrs. Norman, and I need not say how welcome they will be.

Lady Macbeth (May).—A seedling from King James, which it closely resembles in its habit of growth. First bloomed in 1851, and sent out last autumn. A very solid deep edge, full size, without the least spot or bar, and as seen during the last season, a decided improvement on the specimens of Mrs. Norman shewn with it. Whether it will maintain this

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ascendancy in future seasons it is impossible to say; evidently it requires some care in wintering,* and this and other causes may lead to disappointment; but however this may be, the flower, as shewn at the National and elsewhere, did excel Mrs. Norman,—all the specimens of Mrs. Norman having more or less of spot, or bar, while Lady Macbeth was wholly free. In reporting the meeting, in the *Chronicle*, Mr. Edwards remarks, "when we assert it (Lady Macbeth) to be an improvement on Mrs. Norman, all will feel sure its merits must be great; except a better tone of white, we know not what more could be desired." An opinion given with such unmistakeable candour, such an evident determination, even whilst recording the strong feeling of approval left, to leave no fault uncriticised, might have been expected to have been received with favour by all; but probably that the hopelessness of pleasing everybody might not be a by-word amongst us, such was not the case,—a certain florists' beacon, since burnt out, knowing nothing of the flower, never having seen it, never compared it with Mrs. Norman, set itself to oppose an opinion shared by all those who attended the Norwich meeting, embracing, as it is needless to remark, names the most eminent amongst carnation and picotee cultivators; and the remarks then made, Mr. Harrison, who seems most unhappy in his compilations (that is, in the flowers with which I am acquainted), repeats in his *Cabinet*. Now, as I wish to see floriculture flourish, and its press respected, I think it well to suggest that a course such as this is not wise, or likely to lead to anything but evil. Caution alone, if there were no other and higher ground to be taken, would have dictated the necessity of waiting for experience, before cavilling at an opinion given after actual observation, and which, if in error, would assuredly have been corrected by some one of the many cultivators present at the meeting, any one of whom was well qualified, and of whom it could be said they had no interest in common, but their common love for the flowers exhibited, and their common desire to see them truthfully described. Considerations like these, should, at least be present, I think, in the minds of all those who stand up as teachers in floriculture, and I trust, before Mr. Harrison gives another paper on the carnation and picotee, he will make himself better acquainted with the matter he publishes. To guard against an imputation that I have a personal feeling in these remarks, I may say (and it forms another illustration of the subject), that in a paper published in the *Cabinet* for 1849, purporting to be the result of observations made during the blooming season, though evidently a concoction from the *Florist*, and *Midland Florist*, Mr. Harrison made "Mary" the best seedling at *Slough*; that

* This was written whilst winter was yet with us.

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is, he stated it to have won the prize offered for the best seedling of the day. Like most other men, I have plenty of vanity, am fond of success, and like praise, but undeserved praise is sure to be followed by unmerited rebuke, and both alike are full of evil. Of all devils, none is so easily evoked, none so hardly laid, and none so surely exacts his reckoning, as suspicion.

Lavinia (May).—Medium edge. A good useful flower; large, full, and well crowned; petal well shaped, smooth, and of good substance; white good; colour regular. Sent out last autumn. A good grower apparently.

Magnificent (Fellowes).—Raised at Shotesham Rectory, from Jessupp's Sir William Middleton, which it much resembles, but with more refinement. Useful on the home stage for its heavy dense colour and good white, but not such as I should expect to see in a leading stand. First bloomed in 1849, sent out in 1851.

Mary.—A seedling of my own, from Mrs. Bevan, first bloomed in 1849. Much the largest and finest of the light reds I have yet seen, but very early, so that comparatively it is of little use to the exhibitor, unless for a very early exhibition. The petal is broad, well shaped, smooth, and very stout, though the flower quickly flags after reaching maturity, and should be young if shewn; the texture rich, though the white is very inferior to several of the heavy reds, and others of the purple and rose-edged classes; the colour a rosy carmine, very regularly laid round each petal It is a good grower, and will bear seed freely, if impregnated; without this attention, very little seed indeed will be obtained from it. I have found it, in common with most other varieties, come much nearer the height of the season when bloomed from a strong healthy piping.

Mary Ann (Parkinson).—Raised by my old friend and veteran florist, Mr. Wm. Parkinson, of this town, whose enthusiasm, at the age of sixty-five, is no whit excelled by the wildest ardour of sixteen. A very distinct variety; colour a bright red, rich and pleasing in its appearance, but inclined to spot and bar, if very strongly grown; white good; petal rather narrow and long, and falls away too rapidly towards the crown. Size medium. A good grower. I should like to speak more highly of a flower raised by my friend, who is ever "up to the collar" when there is a good work in hand, and who at all times is to be found inciting, encouraging, and leading those whose temperaments are less ardent, or who are less experienced; but my list would be of little use if I sunk the flower in the thought of the raiser.

Miss Holbeck (Kirtland).—Light edge. Sent out in 1850, by the raiser, and comparatively little known. Quite distinct from the other light edges in cultivation, and very desirable.

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Petal broad, smooth, and of good substance; white good for its class; marginal colour faint red, very regularly laid round the petal. Not very full, nor a strong grower. I expect it will prove first-class, for its class, but I hesitate to express a decided opinion on this, not having seen it in any quantity. It was sent out apparently from a limited stock, and one-half of what was in existence was lost or beggared in the hands of neglectful cultivators, before it excited any notice, and stock so reduced is so hard to be brought round again, that it rarely happens it can be got into good condition before it it beaten by a new competitor.

Mr. Trahar (Dickson).—Sent out, I believe, in 1846. Notable enough for its dense, deep colour, which is rich and regularly laid round each petal, but it is not all smooth, is thin, small, and a poor grower. The white is,—not creamy,—just the reverse, milk and watery—sky-blue, as we used to say at our boarding school, of a liquid with which we diluted our morning meal. I have long discarded it from my collection, and am rather surprized to see it continues to find a place in the catalogue of a very noted dealer in these flowers. Marris's Bellona much resembles it in colour, and has the advantage of a very rich white and strong growth, further to recommend it. It also is much smoother.

Mrs. Norman (Norman).—Raised at Woolwich, from the same cross and same pod of seed as James II. First bloomed in 1849, and sent out (by subscription) in 1850. An exquisitely beautiful flower; full-sized (I am describing it as it was with me, and the second blooms were large enough to take the leading place in the Derby stand); admirably formed; the petal broad, very smooth, and of extra substance; the white rich, clear, and lustrous; the colour, a rich scarlet crimson, distributed in a broad solid band evenly round every petal, and almost wholly free from bar, if my readers have not an idea of a superlative variety, it must be from the poverty of my word-painting. In truth, it is a variety to be remembered in the *dreams* of a florist, and therefore not likely to be long absent from his waking thoughts. It is a good grower; habit of grass erect and stiff, pale in colour, with a strong white bloom upon it, and following very equally the characteristics of its parents. But though a good grower, it requires care during the winter, and is evidently most impatient of wet during the spring months. If it have not attention even after a drenching shower which may have fallen in the night, when put out in its blooming quarters, it is most likely that the consequence will be barred blooms. No stimulant should be administered until the buds begin to swell, and then it should be weak and quite clear. As figured in the *Florist* for 1851, it appears flat; with me, it was fully up to the standard of form.

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Prince of Wales (Marris).—Raised at Leicester, from Ely's Field Marshal, impregnated with pollen from Wood's Princess Alice, both heavy-edged purple varieties, and therefore another illustration of the sportiveness of colour in these flowers, and a very decisive proof that whatever may be the laws which govern the production of colours in flowers, a decided variation from the parent may take place, without any loss of richness or distinctive character. Of *proved flowers*, Prince of Wales is second to none save the variety just described (Mrs. Norman), and rich as are the attributes of Mrs. N., the Prince *well done* will rival them. I say *well done*, because the skill of the cultivator must be given, and given ungrudgingly, to its development, and whoever is too lukewarm or too lazy to give to any beautiful flowers the attention they need, will do well mercifully to cast them to the refuse heap at once, so that slow murder may not be added to the catalogue of his offences. Well done then, that is well grown and carefully bloomed, Prince of Wales is magnificent. Colour rich and intense, and laid round every petal with the most admirable precision (not of the same width in every flower, and at all times, that depends on the strength and state of the plant); the white solid, opaque, and sparkling like frosted ivory; the petal well shaped, of good size, smooth, and of capital substance. Its habit of grass is open and succulent, pale green in colour, and requires great care to carry it through the winter successfully, as it is peculiarly apt to suffer from the green-rot. Care must be taken that it does not suffer from excessive wet during the spring months, and it should have a liberal allowance of room (not excessive) in its blooming quarters. When once vigorous growth has set in, and the top of the pot is covered with roots, a free allowance of clear, weak manure water will greatly advantage the bloom; and any one giving these attentions, will be rewarded with such flowers as will leave no room for regrets. It does not appear to bear seed at all, for though I have had many germs fairly set, and apparently progressing to maturity, yet they have always gone off, and I learn the experience of other friends has been of a similar character.

Theodore (Buswell).—Raised at Nottingham, by the late Samuel Buswell, Esq., whose memory will long live in the hearts of those who knew him in life. A pretty little variety, of very fine quality. Petal broad, well shaped, smooth, and of good substance; the marginal colour rich, and very evenly laid on. Not over-full, nor large. A moderate grower. Supposed from Sharp's Duke of Wellington. Sent out last autumn.

[To be continued.]

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THE CINERARIA.

I KNOW of no plant equal to this for the decoration of the conservatory, taking into consideration its great variety of colour, its neat habit, its easy management, and that by a little care, it may be had in bloom the whole of the winter and spring months. Such plants as I require to bloom in the winter, I raise from seed, taking care to save it from my best varieties, and sowing it the beginning of March. As soon as the plants are large enough to handle, they are pricked off into forty-eight-sized pots, about a dozen in each. I should prefer potting them at once into sixties, but spring being a time of the year when every inch of room is required, I prick them off as above, in which way they become good strong plants, occupying but little room. They remain in these pots till about May, when they are potted singly in large sixties, and placed in a cold frame, where they remain till all danger of frost is past, when they are looked over, and such as require it, are repotted in larger pots, and placed under a north wall. Cinerarias delight in shade; in fact, they will not do in the sun. They are continued under the wall, and watered with liquid manure during the summer months, repotting them as the pots become filled with roots. About the beginning of September, they are placed in a cold frame, where they can be protected from cold and wet. They remain here till the beginning of October, when they are removed to the greenhouse. Many of them will now be coming into flower, and will be found acceptable, as they continue a long time in bloom. In addition to the above, I make three more sowings, in April, May, and June, the plants making a good succession for the spring months. For specimen plants of the better varieties, to bloom in April and May, the following is my practice:—As soon as the plants are out of bloom, they are cut down and placed in the shade, where they soon throw up plenty of young

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ones, which are taken off as soon as they are large enough, and potted singly in sixties, in a mixture of leaf mould and sand; they are then removed into a frame with a little bottom heat, where they are kept shaded from the hot sun. In this situation, they soon strike root. When they are well rooted, they are repotted in forty-eights, and again placed in the frame, till they become well established, when they are gradually hardened. They are then removed into a shady situation, and watered with liquid manure, repotting in larger pots as they require it. The soil I now use is equal parts loam, leaf mould, and manure, mixed with plenty of sand. The pots should be well drained, and a little moss placed over the crocks, to keep the soil from running between them. The plants are removed to the greenhouse, as soon as there is any danger of frost, but receive no more fire heat than is necessary to protect them from it. About the beginning of February, they receive their final shift into twenty-fours; they then make vigorous growth, receiving plenty of weak liquid manure, as cinerarias appear to be very gross feeders, and soon suffer, if allowed to become dry. Though the following list may not contain the very best varieties out, still they will all be found well worthy of attention.

Mr. Sidney Herbert.—Fine shaded purple.
Mrs. Sidney Herbert.—White, narrow carmine margin. Very handsome and distinct.
Marianne.—White, rose margin, black disk. Very striking.
Catherine Seaton.—Bright rose, white circle round the disk.
Mrs. Charles Kean.—White and bright rose. Fine form.
Miss Talbot.—Pure white, slight margin of lilac. Very fine.
Nonsuch.—Crimson. Large and of fine form.
Prima Donna.—Dark blue.
Rosy Morn.—Crimson, white ring round disk.
St. Clair of the Isles.—White, with rose margin. Dwarf grower.
Carlotta Grisi.—White, slightly edged with blue. Fine form.
Conspicua.—Rich plum. Very fine.
David Copperfield.—Grey disk, belted with rosy crimson, shaded to deep violet blue. Fine.
Empress.—Bluish purple.
Flora M'Ivor.—Rich crimson. Fine.

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Lady Hume Campbell.—Pure white ground, purple blue edging, of fine form.
Madame Sontag.—White, broad margin of blue.
Wedding Ring.—White and crimson, good form.

W. S. M. M.

A FEW OF THE BEST DAHLIAS—NEW AND OLD.

You often give descriptions of new and interesting plants, but do not say much about the dahlia. In order then, to aid in disseminating information, allow me a space in your pages to note a few of these magnificent flowers. Many that have come out with high sounding characters have been superseded, whilst how few remain to contest the post of honour. In fancies, much improvement is taking place, and now our collections can boast of many really beautiful things. Several very singular and striking sorts of this class were exhibited last year, and gained certificates of merit, &c. Of these, *Wonderful*, raised by Mr. Keynes, of Salisbury, is a finely-formed deep flower, striped with two shades of red or pink, on white. *Harlequin*, by the same raiser, will also do; but this is a dark ground, striped with white and rose colour, and also of good form. Then there is another of a strikingly different character, being well and distinctly flaked with alternate stripes of orange and scarlet. This, I believe, was raised by Mr. J. Edwards, secretary to the National Floricultural Society. There are now abundance of yellows, tipped with white, but *Knight's Duchess of Kent* is a very desirable one, much better in form than most others of its colour, and will certainly be a forward flower in its class. *Mrs. James* (Rawlings) was shown in good style at the Surrey Gardens, and was worthy of the first-class certificate there awarded to it. Very dissimilar, being a light bronze, with white tip, of good form, and will make a fine contrast on the show board. *Queen Victoria* (Wheeler) is also a

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new one, of great merit, and has been shown very successfully at various places, during the past season. This also is of fine form, and distinct in colour, being edged like a picotee, with red, on a yellow ground. In other flowers which, though tipped and mottled, are divided from the fancy class, are *Annie Neville*, raised by Mr. Keynes, a very delightful and delicate flower, white, with a neat margin of purple. *Miss Caroline*, a Birmingham flower, also white, very slightly tipped with purple. This has been one of the most successfully exhibited flowers of the season, and will undoubtedly be much sought after. So will *Drummond's British Queen;* but in this flower, the purple tip or margin is heavily laid on, which, with its fine pure white ground, and good form, renders it exceedingly attractive. In self-coloured flowers there are several decided acquisitions; for instance, in the scarce class of lilacs, *Mr. Rawling's Lilac King* was only exhibited twice, at Edinburgh, and at the National Floral Society, in London, and at each place, it was awarded a first-class certificate. Though not a large flower, it is remarkable for its neatness and symmetry. Then there is *Bob* (Drummond), a noble scarlet flower. This I greatly admired, and should like to know why it did not get a first-class certificate, at the National, last season, for it richly deserved it. It has, however, had seven first-class certificates, and for my part, I take it to be perfectly indispensable, even to the smallest collection. *Brilliant* (Rawlings) will dispute the palm with the preceding. It is also fine scarlet, and has been very successfully shown. *Turner's Sir John Franklin* has also been remarkably fortunate, taking first-class certificates wherever shown, and by competent judges it is said to be a perfect model. It is buff in colour, and is highly desirable for its constancy and form. These are a few worthy to add to any collection, however limited, and I think are likely to give much satisfaction where well grown.

I. E.

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CULTIVATION OF PHLOX DRUMMONDII.

I AM not going to fill several pages with what may be compressed into half of one; but I really love this beautiful phlox, and it is so brilliant, so easy of cultivation, and such a first-rate bedding plant, that I might even be induced to do such a thing. The way in which I have been most successful is to raise the seedlings in spring, in pots, filled with loam, vegetable soil, and a good dose of white or Calais sand, the pots being placed in a warm part of my greenhouse. As soon as the plants can be handled, they are pricked out, four in a pot, and again placed in the frame. When large enough, say by the beginning of May, I turn them out on well prepared beds. After a time, I pinch out the leading shoots, to induce a bushy habit, and am rewarded by an abundant bloom. If I have any among the seedlings particularly attractive, I strike cuttings, pot them off, get them well established before winter, and keep them secure from frost till next spring. Now, were I to write for an hour longer, I could not give you better directions, and I trust your readers will appreciate my motives.

HENRY JAMES.

EFFECTS OF FROST ON SEVERAL NEW TREES AND SHRUBS.

WE well know that the utility of our little book is considerably increased by our endeavouring as much as possible to suit all tastes, and at the same time to convey the greatest amount of information in the least possible compass. As an adjunct then to our several articles entitled "Coppiceana," we shall now briefly notice the effect of the late winter on some of the new trees, shrubs, &c., which we hope will be useful to those of our readers who delight in them. It must be premised, that the soil is a strong and retentive loam. First, then, the *Cryptomeria Japonica*.

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Ours is a beautiful plant, ten feet high. Some years ago, it lost its leader, by the frost, since which, it has formed a fresh one, and though the points of the laterals are slightly "scorched," the leader has escaped. Many people complain of the yellow tinge of the foliage of this fine tree, but ours is an exception, being a lively green. We may consider this tree hardy. The *Cerasus illicifolia*, with its hollylike leaves, has suffered in the foliage, and is considerably disfigured, though the wood appears unhurt. *Ligustrum ovalœfolia* (Siebold) appears as hardy as the common privet; and the beautiful *Japan privet* equally so. This last is a splendid evergreen. But *Thuja Chiliensis* has given us the greatest satisfaction. Our small plant has stood on an exposed border, without any covering or protection, no hedge being near it, and its delicate golden-looking foliage has withstood wind and frost, in fact, all the inclemencies of winter, with a hardihood scarcely to be expected from its appearance. We anticipate that this plant will be highly appreciated. We wish we could say as much for *Cupressus macrocarpa*, a large plant, fifteen feet high, which has its foliage lamentably disfigured; still the interior of the plant is green, and as it has previously recovered its good looks, we yet anticipate a renovation. A plant of *Ceanothus thyrifloras*, twelve feet high, which forms a perfect pyramid of blue flowers, in the summer season, has suffered a good deal, the points of the branches being killed; but from the exposed situation in which it stands, we are surprised it has not been more injured. The beautiful *Quercus lanata* has its foliage slightly injured. This is a splendid oak indeed. We had our misgiving as to its being sufficiently hardy to bear our winters, and are therefore much pleased to find it so robust. *Pinus radiata* has the points of the shoots browned; but *P. macrocarpa*, *Sabiniana*, *Douglassii*, and *Benthamiana*, appear as hardy as so many Scotch firs. *Quercus ilex variegata* has got slightly injured, while the common variety,

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as a matter of course, has escaped, proving that the constitution of the plant has been weakened by its variegation. *Escallonia macrantha* has lost its leaves, but is putting out strong again. This, we anticipate, will make a very desirable shrub. *Garreya macrophylla* has stood better this season than some previous ones, the points of the shoots only suffering, from not getting sufficiently ripened in the autumn. As for *Moutans*, or *Tree Pæonies*, their flowers are taken. What a pity it is that some late-blooming varieties of this noble plant are not originated from seed. We have *Daphne mezereon autumnale*, with other plants of a similar character, and there is no reason that we know of why such a plant might not be obtained by perseverance. It would be a little fortune for the fortunate raiser. A northern aspect, and protection, are now the only means of obtaining blooms, in a spring like the one past. *Viburnum macrocephalum*, a small plant, in a low situation, is killed to the ground. The pretty *Ceanothus rigidus* has also suffered on a light border, whilst on stronger soil it has escaped. Our readers will observe, that amongst trees and shrubs, the situation has considerable effect on their respective hardihood. The lawn plant which has passed the summer in a dry exposed situation, will have ripened its wood better, and consequently be better able to withstand severe frost, than if it had grown in a low sheltered locality.

MACHINE FOR TRANSPLANTING TREES.—This invention of Mr. Stewart M'Glashan appears to act something like five or six men putting their spades in round a tree, and at a given signal, all pressing the handles to the earth. Of course the tree comes up with a ball of soil, and is ready *root-pruned*, as we suppose all the fibres at a distance from the stem are cut off. It is spoken highly of, though contrary to the practice of Mr. Barron, at Elvaston Castle, who, we believe, would not have a fibre destroyed, if possible to avoid it, and who is one of the most successful planters of modern times.

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Part II.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

OUR continental neighbours are famous for the amazing quantity of beautiful plants which they are importing from South America and other countries, as well as for the numerous roses, rhododendrons, fuchsias calceolarias, alstromerias, &c. which they originate from seed. To order from a catalogue is not the best way of obtaining the most distinct varieties, as it will sometimes happen that the plants procured may differ very slightly, in some unimportant particulars, from those which the purchaser already possesses. We have, on a previous occasion, noticed the great addition which has been made to the Moutans, or Tree Pæonies; Triomphe de Malines, and some others, being great improvements on the varieties previously existing. We now find that that indefatigable collector of floricultural rarities, M. Van Houtte, is offering three new sorts, and, considering the slow manner in which they are increased, at a very reasonable price. They are described as follows:—

Souvenir de A. T. Downing.—A very double and brilliant flower, of a glossy rose colour.

Souvenir de Madame Knorr.—An extremely delicate flower, white, slightly shaded with pink. Large and very double.

Charles Rogier.—White, the centre petals flaked, mottled, and edged with rose colour.

The last must certainly be a very great acquisition, and did we not know the strict integrity of M. Van Houtte, we should be inclined to doubt. Our readers will thus perceive the progress which is making in these beautiful plants.

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We have before briefly noticed the rhododendrons, *Standard of Flanders* and *Duke de Brabant.* We can now furnish further particulars, and we are sure that no lover of this magnificent tribe will rest till he possesses them. The flowers of the latter are semidouble, with a white ground, margined with rosy lilac; the upper petals are marked with clear yellow, and spotted with brown. Its habit is good, and it flowers most profusely, in compact and large trusses. The *Standard of Flanders* is understood to be a hybrid, between R. pardoloton and Catawbiense, beautiful rich crimson, very strongly marked or blotched with black. A splendid and striking sort. The price of these are from fifteen to twenty francs, according to the strength of the plants. We may here just direct the attention of amateurs to the result of a judicious hybridizing, and to the immense sums of money which will be turned over with these two varieties alone, for many years to come.

M. Van Houtte also offers a shrubby calceolaria, a clear sky blue, with yellow throat, spotted with red. This is expected to do great things in the hands of the successful hybridizer, and will probably be the parent of an entirely new race. Its habit is compact, and altogether the *Calceolaria violacea* may be considered a valuable addition.

In fuchsias, there is in many of the dark varieties a great sameness. *Duchess of Lancaster,* a new white one, is coming out with an excellent character. The tube is pure and smooth, large and of fine proportions, the corolla being rosy scarlet, and the sepals reflecting well. *Fuchsia miniata* is a species which may be advantageously used in crossing others. The flowers are produced in bunches, at the ends of the branches, and are of a beautiful orange scarlet.

In herbaceous lobelias we have several new sorts. Amongst them, *St. Clare,* a vivid and brilliant scarlet.

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The habit is dwarf and compact, and it will make a first-rate plant, either for pot-culture or for bedding. *Roi Leopold* is of similar compact habit; the flowers, however, are somewhat of the colour of Salvia patens. This will contrast beautifully with the foregoing.

As for new fruits, two currants, which appear to merit attention, have been brought into notice. One is called the *Lunden* or *Goshen Red.* We have had the following description from an eminent cultivator in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh:—Colour deep amber red, bunch very large and compact, berries uniform and of extra size, and was, during the past summer, the admiration of all who saw it. It requires to be planted in a sheltered situation. The other is called the *Imperial Red Currant,* and is also a very desirable sort. It is equal in size of berry to the Goshen Red, but deficient in colour, and is much sought after. We are truly glad that more attention is being paid to this very valuable fruit, and we hope special shows for its encouragement will be established all over the country.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE GREAT NATIONAL TULIP EXHIBITION AT NOTTINGHAM.

THE editor of the *Midland Florist* has very kindly thrown open its pages to the florists of England, for communications of interest on all floral subjects; and as we are sure all tulip growers, and especially the intending exhibiters, will be looking to our proceedings at Nottingham with great interest just now, the writer of this letter hopes that a *hint* or two to them will not be deemed out of place, and may prove especially useful to *new* competitors, and prevent them from making many mistakes.

It is our anxious wish to spare all our friends the mortification which many experienced at Birmingham, last year, by seeing their *stands* placed *under* the tables, *disqualified,* instead of being

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placed *first* in the class, as we have no doubt, many of the most sanguine had fondly hoped. Now, to be disqualified, is most repugnant to human nature, and creates in man's breast feelings highly uncongenial to the spirit of floriculture; and as it is most desirable that we should foster kindly feelings, and as these national reunions are eminently qualified to make florists a *band of brothers*, we feel the more anxious to do what we can to this noble end. And we are sure that if our friends profit by the following hints as to our regulations, very few will be disappointed, and NONE *disqualified*.

Now for our first class, A,—twelve dissimilar tulips, two feathered and two flamed of each class—your flowers will be accounted dissimilar thus,—a feathered flower as dissimilar from a flame of the *same* variety; for example, a stand of twelve for this class, or class B, *may* be made up as follows:—

Bizarres..	1	Polyphemus, feathered.
	2	Polyphemus, flamed.
	3	Royal Sovereign, feathered.
	4	Captain White, flamed.
Byblœmens	5	Maid of Orleans, feathered.
	6	Princess Royal, flamed.
	7	Ambassador, feathered.
	8	Queen Charlotte, flamed.
Roses....	9	Heroine, or Triomphe Royale, feathered.
	10	Triomphe Royale, flamed.
	11	Rose Aglaia, feathered.
	12	Rose Aglaia, flamed.

Here you have a stand of twelve dissimilar flowers—old familiar sorts—six feathered and six flamed, from each of the three classes of bizarres, byblœmens, and roses, which we think will make our meaning plain to every one.

For class B, twelve dissimilar tulips, the exhibiter may stage twelve *flamed* or twelve *feathered* flowers in his stand, if he please; but in either case, they *must* be twelve *different* varieties; but for every feather or flame, as the case may be, he will reduce the number of varieties required, as in class A, and may make six varieties do, if he can find a feather and a flame of the *same* sort; but as you are not limited to number of either feathered or flamed flowers, in this class, you can put in eight or nine flames and three or four feathers, as the case may be; but remember, the blooms must be dissimilar, *the more so the better*, and be four bizarres, four byblœmens, and four roses.

Your stand will *not* be disqualified if it have a flower in it with one or two *slightly split*, or *indented* petals, the result of *natural* growth *(not otherwise)*, which the judges will determine; but of course such a *blemish* will detract from the flower, however fine it may be in other respects, or if it have in it flowers with one or two of their stamens *very slightly stained just under the anthers*. We have no doubt but many of our tulip-loving

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friends have frequently noticed this to be the case with delicate varieties, although perfectly pure sorts, if damp or wet weather comes on, when the flower has fully developed itself, or if it be shut up too close, resulting from the farina of the anthers running down. We mention this because in every exhibition of the National Society we have seen some blemishes of this description. Be *cautious* in this particular. The judges must determine how much such blemishes shall detract from the flowers.

Remember your stand will be *disqualified* if it has not an *equal* number of *each* of the *three* classes, bizarres, byblœmens, and roses; that is to say, four bizarres, four byblœmens, and four roses, for the stands of twelve, in either class A or B; and for class C, you must stage two bizarres, two byblœmens, and two roses.

You may calculate upon your stand being disqualified if you place in it flowers such as we believe could never boast of purity, for we never saw a flower that had perfectly black stamens (as for example, Rose Unique), with anything like pure stamens. Although grown with the greatest care, that splendid marker will always be seen with black stamens. Sable Rex, with its *black*, or at best *muddy* base, and many others, both old and new varities, that might be named. Though flowers with these impurities are generally fine *coloured*, and beautiful markers, still, unfortunately, such blemishes cannot pass the ordeal of our exhibitions now-a-days, and must give place to purity, *even if imperfect in colour and marking.* PURITY *must be the first property*, next *form* and quality of petal, *and last colour and marking.*

Your stand will be disqualified if you place in it *two flamed* or two *feathered flowers* of the SAME variety, no matter by what name you call them. You may call them *seedlings*, or *unknown*, or anything else, but if the censors are of opinion that they are the *same* variety, your stand cannot take a prize as a stand, but will be broken up for classes D and E, single specimens, in the same manner as the beaten stands in the three previous classes.

In conclusion, we would particularly recommend our friends to remember *purity* as the first property of a splendid tulip. Be sure to put in your stands the right number of each class; let every flower be as different as possible in colour and general appearance; it will be much better to put in an *indifferently marked, fine formed, pure flower of the right class*, if even it have a natural split petal, which will *not* disqualify your stand, but at most count one against it. Remember, Holmes's King will beat Incomparable le Grand, although the former is devoid of feather, and the latter a very beautiful marker and very constant, but *impure.*

W. R. LYMBERY.

Ison Green, April 13th, 1853.

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THE AURICULA.

[*From the Florist.*]

THE following is my method of cultivating the auricula, which for years has obtained my greatest regard.

As it is of the utmost importance in the cultivation of this beautiful and delicate flower that it be provided with an appropriate and secure habitation, I will first describe the frames I use in its cultivation. These frames are built of inch and quarter deal; they are five feet long and three feet six inches from back to front; the height of the back is three feet, and of the front one foot six inches, the front being formed of two nine-inch boards, the bottom one being a fixture, and the top one letting down on hinges. This plan admits of a free circulation of air in rainy weather, without any injury to the bloom, which frequently happens when the sash is tilted.

The sash should extend over the frame a few inches in front, to carry off drippings to a distance. It is hung on hinges at the back, and when lifted up, supported by an upright fixed on each end of the the frame, through which holes are bored, and pegs passed at any required distance. In the inside of the frame, there is a stage of strong slabs, supported by bearers fixed on each side of the frame, at some distance from the bottom, on which my pots stand; this keeps them free from worms, and allows all superfluous moisture to drain from them after watering.

I would here state, that I prefer a shutter to each frame, for keeping out frost, as it is not liable to be blown off by winds, or become rotton with snow and rain.

These frames, which I hope I have intelligibly described, answer the purpose very well; but the aim of the true amateur of this lovely flower should be a small house, constructed upon a principle suited to its nature, and which the amateur can enter to view and attend his favourites, securing at the same time

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himself and progeny from the frequent inconveniences of wind and rain.

The next point to be considered is the pot; and as this plant requires a good drainage, it should be of sufficient depth to allow for this; therefore I use for my strong-blooming plants that kind of pot in which hyacinths are grown.

The soil which I have found the auricula to thrive and colour well in is about one-half old hot-bed manure, and one-half sound fibrous loam, well turned over and frozen through before being used. I have found it much preferable to employ charcoal or wood ashes in the compost, instead of sand; they keep the soil open equally, and therefore sweet, and they also help to fertilize it.

Situation and aspect are likewise of great importance; for if these are not attended to, disappointment is sure to follow. East, or east by south, is best for them, placing the frames on bricks, in a situation that is dry. August is the time I begin to repot my plants, putting in a good drainage of broken bones, which are preferable to crocks, serving, like the charcoal, the double purpose of drainage and nutrition.

After potting, they receive a good watering, shading them from the sun for a few days. At this time they will require a supply of soft water about once a day; but as the season declines, it must be gradually decreased. They are top-dressed the beginning of February, with the same kind of compost in which they are potted, increasing the supply of water, with occasionally a stimulant of liquid manure.

Give all the light and air you can in mild weather, and put on the shutters when it is frosty. The plants should never be watered over-head from the time you decrease the water in autumn until after the bloom is over, when they may have an occasional light shower.

While the plants are in bloom, select from your best varieties the most perfect pips for hybridization, taking care that the blooms from which you take the

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pollen have favourite properties which the sorts to be fertilized have not. When the seed is ripe, it is best to sow it immediately, in pots of the same soil as you grow the plants in. Fill them to within an inch of the top, press down even, and scatter the seed regularly; then put just sufficient soil on the top to cover it. After this is done, water as lightly as possible, cover with a hand-glass, and keep moderately moist. Some of the seeds may make their appearance in a few weeks, and the rest will come up early and strong in the spring.

When the young plants have made three or four leaves, they should be planted out at once into pots about four inches in diameter, where they are to remain to bloom. In these comparatively large pots they are not so subject to drought, and are supported without stint until they have shewn the first bloom, which is very important; for I have no doubt many a gem has been cast away as worthless, that, under proper treatment, would have become the pride and glory of its raiser.

SAMUEL COOKE.

Kill Field, Coventry.

HYBRIDS.—Your remarks on hybridizing, induce me to inquire if any experiment has been made with the different species of lychnis, as I think a race of singular beauty might be obtained, between fulgens or coronata and the old hardy scarlet of our gardens. If a variety could be raised, combining the robust constitution of the latter with the large blossoms of the former, I think the successful florist would be well rewarded for his pains. Such an experiment has been, this year, attempted in my conservatory; but not having the hardier species, chalcedonica, in my garden, coronata was the mother, or rather intended mother; for the whole flower-stem was accidentally broken off, after the individual blossoms had received

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the pollen. I am not myself a heath grower, but I am very anxious to recommend to the attention of some skilful cultivator of this lovely race, the attempt to unite the hardy British species with the exquisite race of South Africa. I presume that no physiological bar to the union exists, which peradventure might prevent a combination of the ericas of the Cape with the menziesias of Ireland; if not, how beautiful would the large blossoms of one appear, when suffused with the glowing hues of the other. As it is affirmed that the interesting little hardy shrub, known as Bryanthus erectus, is a true menziesia, it might be well to test its capabilities as the parent of a new race. Obstacles to the union of various heathworts seem to exist; as I am told that the late Dean of Manchester failed in raising crosses between Rhodothamnus Kamschaticus and some species of rhodendron, while he succeeded in getting a hybrid between Rhododendron dauricum atrovirens, which has flowered and is very distinct, and is now in the possession of Messrs. Veitch, of Exeter, who I believe possess the whole stock. Mr. Smith, of Norbiton, tells me that he cannot procure a union between the Azalea indicas and the fine Ghent varieties, though so many fine seedlings of each have been raised by him. I see that Messrs. Rollisson have succeedd in raising seedlings between Rhododendron Javanicum and some hardy species, and I believe the same result has been accomplished in the nursery of Messrs. Veitch, so that we may hope to see orange and yellow added to the other colours of this glorious race. I do not grow many bulbs, but having observed at this early season, a strong head of flowers of the Belladonna lily, which had been forced into bloom by having been planted at the foot of a wall, which receives heat from the kitchen chimney, I dusted the stigma with the pollen of a fine Amaryllis platypetala, and am hopeful regarding the result of the experiment; but the pollen of the Belladonna had had no effect on the Amaryllis. —A DEVONIAN.—*Gardeners' Chronicle.*

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To raise Calceolarias from Seed.—M. L. Van Houtte, of Ghent, gives, in his catalogue, the following concise and excellent method:—"Sow at any time (though August and September are the most proper months), in pots, in peat earth; place over the pot a square of glass, scarcely cover the seed, keep the soil slightly moist, and when the plants are large enough to be handled, prick them out an inch apart, in pans, and keep them in a close frame till they have again struck root, when they may have a little air, and be gradually hardened. As soon as the plants touch each other, they should be potted in small pots, in which they may remain during the winter, in a cold frame, where frost can be excluded. Early in the spring, place them in the pots to flower."

Winter or New Potatoes.—Mr. James Cuthill, of Camberwell, says, "What are called winter or new potatoes are the produce of old tubers, kept back till July, and then planted. They grow very fast, but the crop never ripens till the frost sets in. As soon as the haulm is cut down, large quantities of straw are put on the ground, and towards Christmas, the tubers are dug up, put into one and two-pound baskets, and sold for new potatoes, at from sixpence to eightpence per pound. They are as full of water as a turnip, on account of the leaves being destroyed before the cells had time to become filled with starch. Cornwall Kidneys are the only ones used for this purpose. On examining one, you will find the skin firmly attached, which is not the case with a new potato, either grown in a frame or the natural ground."

Obituary.—Died, at Little Gonnerby, near Grantham, on the 19th of April, Mr. Thomas Yeomans. He was an enthusiastic florist, and a kind-hearted and upright man.

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Part III.

REVIEWS.

THE SCOTTISH GARDENER. No. 4, vol. ii.

AMONGST the many useful papers in this periodical, is one entitled "The Frame Ground," in which occurs the following remarks:—"Doubtless, the very best fermenting material is a mixture of two parts tree leaves (oak are the best) with one part hot manure. But before use, it is essential that as much fermentation be carried out with the hot manure, as will dissipate those gasses which, in the bed, are prejudicial to vegetation. Here lies the chief secret of success, here the saving of subsequent labour. It is, moreover, essential to the well-being of the hotbed, that not a violent heat for a short period, but rather an enduring one, be induced. Now this, of course, implies that a due regard be paid to the preservation of texture in the materials, which a violent heat speedily destroys. Hence hot manure which has been previously tamed, does not force decomposition in the leaves, which raw material from the stable door assuredly does. When what is technically called burning takes place in a hotbed, water is of course resorted to of necessity, and a copious supply of this speedily reduces the organic texture of the mass, and thenceforward arises a necessity for what is termed hot linings, which are somewhat expensive affairs." And again, we have the following observation:—"We can only say, that whilst we would be amongst the last to stint a practical man in his manure, we would also be loath to tolerate a profligate waste of it. The use, then, of steadily fermenting materials as bottom heat, linings, &c. and the addition of such things as fir boughs round the exterior, to ward off winds, will both economise labour and manure."

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There is also a strong article, headed "The Pansy, its Properties, founded on Symmetrical Proportion," by T. *versus* Glenny. Whoever "T." may be, he is a bold man, for few writers venture to attack Mr. G.; but we think that the discussion on "the properties," which must inevitably ensue, will be conducive to good. We quite agree with T.'s concluding remark. "Intelligent florists, generally, are quite as capable as either Mr. Glenny or we, of forming an opinion for themselves, and whatever the conclusion they may come to, we have not a doubt but it will be in accordance with every recognized quality of beauty,—that is with harmonious and symmetrical proportions, combined with the most pleasing contrast of colour." At the same time we are bound to acknowledge, that by Mr. Glenny's constant advocacy of form, purity, &c. much more correct ideas are entertained by florists at large than formerly was the case.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

On the 5th of June, 1849, a tulip show took place at Mr. Smith's, General Wolfe, North-gate, Blackburn, and amongst the members entered was Mr. Chippendale, of Tottleworth. It appears that at one of the meetings before the show-day, part of the members agreed there should be a stand of six blooms for the principal prize. Mr. Chippendale won this stand with the following:—Charles X., San Joe, Bienfait, Davies's Queen Charlotte, La Belle Nannette, and Mason's Matilda. Now, all things passed off very smoothly, the judges having finished, and all moneys being paid, when the gentleman who had the second stand came into the room and demanded the money from Mr. Chippendale, on the ground that he (Mr. C.) had made up his stand contrary to the rule, which said the stand should contain six different varieties. Mr. Chippendale lives four miles from Blackburn, and does not attend many meetings in this town, and those members who were aware of this clause in the rule never informed him of the alteration. Of course he made his stand to his own advantage. He might have put in La Vandikken or Aglaia, both good, in the place of Matilda; but not knowing of the alteration, he kept them for the classes, for as soon as he saw the other stands, he was sure he could win in

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the way he acted. The judges were not made aware of the alteration until after they had completed their work. Mr. Chippendale was very sorry for the mistake, but they had made it themselves, and it must stand; still there is much said about it amongst the Blackburn growers. Now, under these circumstances, do you not think Mr. Chippendale is justified in holding the prize? T. G.

[The question relative to the stand of tulips which took the first prize on the 5th June, 1849, at the General Wolfe, Blackburn, depends whether the parties who met and agreed that there should be a stand of six blooms, were authorized to do so. If they were a committee who were entrusted to carry out the exhibition, they, of course, would act for the best. Surely Charles X., San Joe, Bienfait, Davies's Queen Charlotte, La Belle Nannette, and Mason's Matilda, are dissimilar; and if there were three feathers and three flames, we suppose the conditions were complied with. And again, after the judges had decided and the money was paid, we think their verdict ought not to be disturbed. The objection ought to have been made before the judges went in; and it is clear that neither Mr. Chippendale nor the judges are to blame in the matter, as they were unconscious of the clause. Cases of this kind will ensure attention for the future, and the best thing we can recommend the Blackburn growers to do is, in friendly competition, to prevent Mr. C. taking another first prize.]

What is Ingram's Prince of Wales strawberry? Is it attainable? H. B.

[It is stated to be a very superior fruit, and much cultivated for her Majesty's table; large, good in colour, and of fine flavour. We believe it has been advertised.]

THE NATIONAL TULIP SHOW.—R. S.—We believe the Nottingham committee interfere in no quarrels of other parties, and there are always two sides to a question. With regard to any one holding aloof because this, that, and the other person has offended them, we can simply say, we are sorry for it, for though we have got a famous roll of exhibiters, we should be glad to find all florists, for once, sink their differences at these national demonstrations, and keep their strifes and jealousies to their own districts. We do not think anyone will be profited by discussions as to other persons' floricultural honesty. To them we would say, in the words of our Redeemer, Those who are guiltless, throw the first stone.

THE WISTASON CORRESPONDENCE.—This is to us another painful subject. We are grieved to find certain parties, who ought to know better, so sadly forgetting themselves as to elicit such severe reproofs as are herein contained. We

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think the friends of the late Thomas Whittaker could not have adopted a better plan than to publish the whole correspondence. Their calm reasoning and forcible replies to the coarse insinuations and personalities of their opponents, are beyond all praise. For our own part, we think the establishment of such a society, for proving seedling gooseberries, as that at the Falstaff Inn, in the very heart of the district where such fruit is extensively grown, is highly beneficial and proper, and ought to be encouraged by every gooseberry grower in the country. Did we raise gooseberries, we should send them there for inspection and comparison; and were we purchasing a novelty, we would much sooner give a good price for it after it had passed the ordeal of that society. Many worthless sorts have been sold out at Wistason, and if this correspondence breaks up the monopoly which has existed there so long, it will, we are sure, be conferring an immense benefit on the gooseberry growing community.

Berberis Dulcis *(The Sweet-fruited Berberry).*—W. M.—Yes, our correspondent will find this a very beautiful evergreen shrub; the flowers are produced in great profusion. W. M., however, will not find the berries sweet, as its scientific name would imply.

Herbaceous Pæonies.—R. T.—Very considerable addition has been made to this very beautiful tribe of plants, from seminal varieties, raised more particularly on the Continent. The following we have seen, and can recommend:—P. anemoneflora alba, P. prolifica tricolor, P. grandiflora nivea pleno, P. anemoneflora striata, P. tenuifolia pleno, and P. festiva.

Apples.—W. W.—Your apples are well-preserved specimens of the Court Pendu Plat, or Wollaton Pippin. They appear to have been kept in sand, and are this day (April 19) apparently as fresh as when gathered. We consider it a first-rate sort to grow on the Paradise stock. It bears early and profusely.

Roses.—Mary.—You may strike cuttings of these by inserting them in sand, under a hand-glass, towards the latter part of summer, at least Chinese, Bourbon, and hybrid perpetuals. We have also thus propagated moss roses, but layers are the best.

Wireworms.—A Carnation Grower.—You now find, to your cost, the propriety of well searching for these pests, previous to potting your layers. Your loss of Mrs. Norman, R.P., as well as the others you name, cannot now be helped, but we would advise you to immediately place some quarters (not slices) of potatoes just below the surface of the soil, in your pots. These will catch them.

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MY GARDEN.

No. V.

ERE long, brother florists, we shall be fully engaged in the pleasing excitement attending competition for some "first prize." Even before this paper has left the press, some of us, probably, will have commenced the season's campaign, with the pansy, auricula, or polyanthus. Of course but few can take *the* prominent positions,—many must be content with the lower places. Well, let us bear our defeat without complaining, and be more than ever determined that before long we will change places with our at present more fortunate competitors. Above all things, let us carry out the motto, "Fairplay and no favour;" and let harmony be the mainstay of our floral gatherings. Whilst on the subject of exhibitions, that of "dressing flowers" naturally arises. I am not going to discuss now the *pro.* and *con.* of the matter, though I am strongly inclined to the former, but will only remark, the less of it is done the better; especially with some flowers, *i. e.* the pansy and auricula. We cannot materially improve the shapes of such flowers, and what is gained in this way, is more than lost by the destruction of those delicate yet rich tints so abundantly bestowed by nature, and by her alone. We hear sometimes of a preparing of the heartsease for exhibition, by cutting the blooms twenty-four hours before they are wanted, and then flattening them by pressure; but be assured, a genial atmosphere and good growth will do the work much better.

The tulip, as the queen of the month, of course demands the first place in our remarks. After all, it seems that the blooms this season will be by no means so early as was at one time expected. Redoubled care will be necessary as the buds are rising, to secure from hail and frost. If a tolerably severe storm of the former, or night of the latter, find your bed unprotected, you may as well retire for the season; at all events, there will be no gold medal, or first

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prize waiting for you. But whilst guarding against these evils care must be taken to avoid the opposite extreme, and bring on that of drawing them up weak and tender; plenty of air, with occasional mild showers, will ensure a healthy and vigorous growth. As soon as the colours begin to show, get the cloths on; and whilst enjoying the full tide of beauty this gorgeous flower will delight you with, don't forget the memorandums to be made in the "tulip book," detailing faults with scrupulous care, that they may be guarded against in time to come. As pansies grow, take off the side shoots, for cuttings, which, when rooted, must be planted in beds (shaded from the midday sun), for summer blooming. Keep a sharp look out for seed, birds are ever on the alert for a good ripe pod, and may probably thus take one or two good varieties that ought to belong to the florist. The seed may be sown as often as it is possible to get a sufficient quantity. As the beds of seedlings will be now daily showing new faces, watch them, to secure cuttings at once of anything really good; nothing second-rate will do in these days, after the very fine varieties sent out last year, but more of these anon. Pinks require occasional supplies of manure water, to help them in throwing up their blooming stems; thin and tie them as they grow, being guided in the number of blooms left by the habit of the variety and strength of the plant. Let carnations and picotees be watered as is found needful, and keep them free from the decaying foliage. I sometimes think that those who, with a true floricultural ardour, condescend to cultivate nothing but the true florists' flowers, pass by subjects which would, if properly cared for, yield them much interest and satisfaction; for example, the antirrhinum, sweet-william, and aster. A dozen sorts of antirrhinum will give a good variety, and by planting them out in rich soil, in May, they will bloom freely through the autumn. The sorts, Hendersonii and Primrose Perfection, sent out last year, are indispensable. As

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auriculas go out of flower, repotting should be proceeded with; and polyanthuses may be divided and planted out in a moist shady bed. Dahlias should be gradually hardened off, ready for turning out at the end of May, or early in June; they will well repay the extra trouble of shifting into five-inch pots, as by this means the plants are much finer and stronger, and do not get that stunted growth so often resulting from the prevention of a free root-action. Verbenas may be planted out at the end of the month, in beds of very rich soil. Roses will be much improved by a good dressing of decomposed manure, and a plentiful supply of water in dry weather.

The greenhouse should, during May, be in its gayest dress, with azaleas, ericas, epacrises, roses, and pelargoniums, in addition to many miscellaneous plants. Pelargoniums must be shaded from the midday sun, and the house protected with netting, to exclude bees. Constant attention is necessary in training, that each truss may occupy its right place, and the bloom be equally distributed over the whole plant. Fuchsias will need much care and skill, to distribute the shoots well. Their charm consists in easy gracefulness, that shows as little as possible a trainer's hand. Epacrises and ericas will need shifting at this time. Calceolarias may be repotted, if wanted as specimens. The greenfly is particularly troublesome to them at this time, and must be carefully guarded against. Chrysanthemums should be placed where a free and strong growth will be acquired.

No garden can look gay without attention to bedding plants; they must be hardened off ready for planting in the open ground at the end of May and early in June. After the full directions given in the *Midland Florist* for April, by W. S. M. M., it would be folly for me to occupy any more space on the subject.

J. J. C.

April 15th, 1853.

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

[Continued from page 140.]

PICOTEES.—PURPLE-EDGED.

Alfred.—The best flower of its class. Rather a bold thing for its raiser to say, but as this list would be of no value if it did not represent my opinion, at the risk of being thought egotistical, I venture to give it. I am quite aware Alfred is open to improvement, and I must confess to a certain degree of surprise and disappointment, that two years have passed over us, without producing a variety possessing all its excellencies without any of its imperfections. For myself, I hope to be in no way behind my seedling-raising friends, in endeavouring to excel my own productions, though the past two years have been blanks with me; one from too stringent an effort after refinement, by which I obtained very fine flowers, but plants without sound constitutions,—a good lesson, though not pleasant; and the other from the loss of my whole batch, consequent upon a shift of quarters at an unfavourable time. The coming year—the third—I hope will prove more fortunate, according to the old adage, "there is luck in odd numbers." But this is a digression. Alfred in proper character is a full, finely-formed, and full-sized flower; the petal broad, of extra substance, well shaped, and very smooth; the colour a medium band of rich purple, very true in its delineation, changing when fading, or when bloomed without a free supply of air and light, to a bright lilac; the white solid, without spot or bar, and with a rich lustrous surface, excelling in this feature any variety I know. This is the character of Alfred as it has bloomed with me for three years, though the last was comparatively inferior, from the severity of thrip, and to have it thus, it should be very vigorously grown. No fear need be felt that it will be too strong, for with me, no amount of apparent grossness has affected its quality in the least degree, but the contrast of its rich dense colour and sparkling white has been greatly heightened. Whoever, therefore, may have plants of only a moderate degree of strength, I recommend that they be

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"stopped," so that a more vigorous growth may be had for the succeeding season, when I believe there will be little room for regret. In habit of grass it is broad and stout, rather open and succulent, and dull in colour; should be kept dry and have abundance of air in winter. Raised from Wood's Princess Alice. First bloomed in 1849, sent out in 1850. A free grower, but like all Princess Alice seedlings, very subject to greenfly and the attacks of thrips. A good fumigation, as the buds swell, will greatly advantage both the bloom and plants.

Ann Paye (May).—Light-edge. Evidently a seedling from Sharp's L'Elegant, which it much resembles, but free from the vice of that old variety in the *curl* of the centre petals. Petal broad, smooth, and of good substance; colour solid, and evenly laid round each petal; white free from spot or bar, but not so rich as some others in this class; well formed; not over full. A moderate grower. First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1849.

Beatrice (May).—Light-edge. Fuller than the preceding variety, and finely crowned. Petal broad and well shaped, smooth, and of good substance; white solid and rich; marginal colour dense and laid on very regularly. A little inclined to bar. A fine sort. First bloomed in 1849, sent out in 1851.

Bianca (May).—Heavy-edged. Sent out last autumn. Raised from Princess Alice, and much resembles it in its general features, but is larger. The white and colour is particularly good; petal finely shaped, smooth, and stout; well crowned. Not a strong grower apparently.

Bridesmaid (Matthews).—Light-edge. An ex. ex. variety, in an extra fine class. Petal of admirable shape, very smooth, and of extra substance; white very pure, and colour (deep purple) solid and very regular, without the least spot or bar. Form first-rate. The grass is small, and it evidently requires care in wintering. Raised by the Rev. A. Matthews, of Weston-on-the-Green, Oxon, from his Enchantress. First bloomed in 1850, sent out last autumn.

Circe (Matthews).—Light purple. Another flower by the same raiser, and from the same parent. First bloomed in 1847 (the stock then consisting of two small pipings only), and sent out in 1851. A fine flower unquestionably in the south, where I have seen it in capital condition; a distinct, bold, and smooth light-edge; but here it came much heavier, with the centre petals serrated. Whether it will come round, or continue cross-grained with us, further experience can alone determine.

Constance (May).—Narrow-edged heavy. Another illustration of the varying moods with which flowers, as well as mankind, are endowed. In the south, it is a fine distinct, bold flower, with very regular colour and clear white; here it came in-

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variably barred, and therefore, as it would not respond to my coaxing, as a bit of reprisal, I *barred* it out.

Countess (Fellowes).—Raised at Shotesham Rectory, Norfolk, from mixed seed. First bloomed in 1850, sent out last autumn. The heaviest and most solid edge *out*. Colour rich dark purple; guard petals very fine, centre petals inclined to curl. But for this fault, it would assuredly be the best *heavy* yet out. Habit of grass small. A moderate doer.

Diadem (Fellowes).—Also heavy-edge. Raised by Robert Fellowes, jun., Esq., at Bitteswell Hall, Lutterworth, Leicestershire, from mixed seed. First bloomed in 1849, sent out last autumn. Very similar in style to Portia, but larger. Not so refined as some other flowers in the class, yet a fine variety. Habit of growth very robust, and a first-rate doer. An early bloomer.—I give with great pleasure the welcome intelligence to my floral friends, that Mr. Fellowes has a brace of roses, a light and heavy, seedlings of the past year, which I venture to prophecy, on sure authority, but without expecting anything for the "tip," will be certain winners and delight a large circle.

Duke of Newcastle (Burroughes).—Now six or seven years old, and still a *respectable* light-edge, in the south; here it never would expand. I introduce the flower for the purpose of noticing this circumstance, as I humbly conceive information of such a nature is valuable. Did I follow the example of certain would-be rulers in Israel, I should denounce the flower and its senders out as cheats; but as "old things pass away," I trust we have seen the last of a mode of expression as incongruous as it was injurious to floriculture.

Duke of Rutland.—Raised by my friend, Mr. F. W. Hollyoake, of Leicester, from Enchantress, light-edge, impregnated with pollen from Wood's Princess Alice, heavy-edge. First bloomed in 1849, and sent out in 1851. A truly noble variety, very constant, and for form and splendid habit of bloom almost impossible to be improved. Alfred in very fine character will get past it, not in these points, but in the whole, at least, as is perhaps natural, and an allowance must be made for it, I think so, and I have heard the same expressed by various friends, but nothing else, known to me, will. Full, without the least confusion; full sized; petal broad, gently cupped, smooth, and of good substance; white clear and translucent, margined with a regular medium band of bright lilac, the flower speaks for itself, and should be extensively cultivated by every admirer of the tribe. Add to this, it is a good grower and will bear seed freely, and what else can I say in its favour? What I have said it truly deserves. I will only add, it must be *grown well;* good generous soil, and a liberal application of manure water at the proper time is imperative. It wont easily be overdone.

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Duke of Devonshire (Bayley).—Raised at Derwent Bank, the residence of the Misses Strutt, in this town, by my much-esteemed friend, to whose intelligent instruction I owe a large measure of the success which has attended my humble efforts in the cultivation of these flowers. A seedling from Portia. All that I have said of the form, and habit, and constancy of the Duke of Rutland applies to this variety, and to this must be added, it is a *broad heavy*. Undoubtedly the first of the *heavies*, and wherever the "light bobs" can no longer hold their ground,—wherever a charge of the heavies is imperative,—there I prognosticate the "Duke" will be prominent, first and foremost in the fight, leading to victory. In addition to its merits as a flower, it is the best grower and has the best habit known to me, and therefore is peculiarly valuable as offering such an opportunity by intermarriage with some of the more delicate varieties, of continuing all the refinement we at present possess, with more colour and a vigorous growth. The following description is taken from the *Florist*, of last year, August number, answers to correspondents:—"Heavy-edged purple, of a peculiar soft rosy shade; petals broad, nicely rounded, and cupped; very full, without being confused. It has very wide marking. A very desirable variety." To this I have only to add, it *needs no driving;* good sound loam, with a little old manure and leaf mould, is all that is required. It is not yet out. Probably will be accessible in the autumn.

Delicata (Holliday).—Raised at Northampton, from mixed seed. Sent out in 1847. First shown as a narrow-edged heavy, but now comes with less colour, and is a light-edge. Has a good petal, a pure white, and a lively cheerful colour, but is very thin, and not nearly so smooth as several other lights in cultivation. It is a poor grower, and seems to be wearing out apace.

Enchantress (Matthews).—A splendid break when first originated, most assuredly, and still of capital service to the seedling raiser, being a fruitful seed bearer. As a variety for exhibition it is comparatively of little use, but too much cannot be said of its fine-shaped, broad, and stout petal, and good habit; and the fine varieties originated from it shows the service it has been to florists. It is a good grower. Sent out, I believe, in 1845.

Ernestine (Turner).—Heavy-edged. A pretty little well-formed flower, good white and regular colour, but of no use against the great guns of the class. Sent out in 1849.

Exquisite (Hudson).—Light-edged. Described as "fine," by my southern friends, and so it is in every respect but the white, which, with me, was very creamy; and having several flowers equally good in other points, in this class, with the addition of a pure white, I cannot say it is fine. I have

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never seen it in the south, but it is not likely it had such a fault there, or it would not have been called *fine*.

Fanny (Dodwell).—Raised from Princess Alice, and a repeat upon that variety, with an addition in size and colour, but an indifferent grower. Bloomed first in 1849, sent out in 1850.

Ganymede (Fellowes).—Raised at Shotesham Rectory. First bloomed in 1849, sent out in 1851. Light-edged. A superb variety; full sized, and full without confusion; petal very smooth, and of fine substance; colour bright and very regular; white exquisite. In blooming, it requires some little attention from the florist, as the petals do not naturally imbricate like some; but this the merest tyro may obviate. Some idea may be formed of the beauty and value of this flower, when I state that the *ninth* and last and weakest bloom from a pot, containing three plants, was sufficiently large and high crowned to occupy a place in the *back tier* of our "towns" stand; and those who saw the whole when fully expanded and in their prime, will long remember their magnificence. The general voice at the towns meeting was, and very naturally, in favour of Ophelia, as compared with this variety, my own "sentence," after a season's comparison, is for Ganymede. A fine grower, and rather early in bloom. Origin unknown.

Haidee (Fellowes).—From the same raiser. Sent out last autumn, first bloomed in 1849; supposed from Mrs. Bevan. Not so large nor so full as Ganymede, but the better flower. First-rate in form; petal irreproachable; white without the slightest speck; colour a bright lilac, rich, solid, and regular; *of extra* substance, and very smooth; it will puzzle florists in *all* directions to rival or excel its beauties; and in addition to all this, its petals are naturally very symmetrically arranged, a point the florist has never ceased to strive for, and one which will have from him at least as large a measure of appreciation as from those who can only see in the beauty his art and patient perseverance extorts from imperfect nature, a species of "trickery," disreputable and "dishonest." It is much to be regretted that any persons should permit themselves to use terms so extreme, for wherein is there a dishonesty in "dressing" which does not also exist in budding, grafting, stopping, pruning, training, tying-in, and disbudding? All these are at least equally artificial, and more violent. Did it ever occur to those who venture to speak so roundly, that if dressing a flower—that is bringing out a beauty inherent, and of the thing "dressed," but hidden, or imperfectly developed—be dishonest, their own daily adornings are not immaculate, and the hair of her most dearly beloved must be left uncontrolled and dishevelled, until such time as it can be made *to grow* into that mode

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most suitable to her form and features? He who, guided by his knowledge, his patient study, and careful observation, ventures to play the midwife to mother nature, and gives birth to a beauty otherwise *for that time* unknown, is certainly neither a trickster nor a cheat. I remember a few years since, whilst attending one of the leading exhibitions of these flowers, the conversation turned on the light-edged purple class, and, referring to the beauties then existing, an opinion, which seemed to be very generally participated in by those present, was expressed, that but little, if any, advance could be expected on the point of perfection then attained. But how utterly impossible it is to decide upon that point beyond which art and nature cannot go, subsequent experience has fully demonstrated, one season (1849) having produced three varieties (Ophelia, Ganymede, and Haidee) which, in the opinion of those well qualified to determine, are decidedly in advance of those which have preceded them, and 1850 having brought another (Bridesmaid), still in advance of those named. Whether Bridesmaid will maintain the ascendancy it has been thought to have, is a point for time to determine, Haidee being a vigorous and evidently the better grower, will certainly have a great advantage in the hands of the majority of cultivators, and the only way I can assist those who are determined to have the "better flower," is to direct them to follow my example, and—choose both.

Jessica (May).—First bloomed in 1846, sent out in 1847. Much in the way of Sharp's Invincible, and very probably a seedling from it. Well formed; full, without confusion; good stout petal; white fair, and colour dense, broad, and regular, and tolerably free from spots or bars. In its best character, a good old *heavy*, though secondary in refinement to several now in the class. Grows freely in summer, but a bad winter doer.

Juliet (May).—A seedling of the same year, and sent out at the same time with the preceding. Light-edged. Probably originated from Crask's Prince Albert. During the last two years, Juliet has been much more barred than it should be, caused, I have little doubt, by a weakening of its constitution consequent upon overgrowth, for if it is a fact that mankind suffers from excess, the same truth is quite as pertinent in the world of flowers, and the florist should neither let his hopes nor regard lead him into an erroneous kindness. But in proper character, Juliet is a noble flower, full, finely formed, and very distinct; petal broad, gently cupped, very smooth, and very stout; white very rich; and the marginal colour dense and regular. Altogether, Juliet deserves well at the hands of her friends, rivalled and excelled though she be; and if her fair fame has been dimmed by a

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slight transgression, it should rather be accounted a misfortune than a fault. A strong grower.

King of Purples.—Raised by Mr. George Garratt, of Codicote Mills, Herts, from seed saved from Crask's Prince Albert, light-edged. First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1850. Third in the group of narrow-edged heavies, as I place them, Alfred and Duke of Rutland being one and two; and placed third only from losing a point in size; but the whole are so close together, that we might sing, as a good friend of mine has already sung in these pages,

"How happy could I be with either,"

without ever wishing

"T'other dear charmer away."

Carefully and vigorously grown, King of Purples is a variety of surpassing excellence; petal large, well shaped, very smooth, very stout, and well continued to the crown; white solid, rich, and clear; and colour, a bright lilac, rich and exquisitely regular. It is rather delicate, small in the grass, and must be kept very carefully from excessive wet, when first potted for bloom. I should think a capital variety to seed from, if crossed with some of the more vigorous growers.

Lady Franklin.—Raised by my friend, Mr. James Merryweather, of York, a thoroughly genuine John Bull florist, and capital type of the unaffected hearty Englishman, who needs but to be known to be appreciated. Supposed from John's Prince Albert. A fine noble flower, full sized and fine in form, petal broad and stout, white very clear, and colour regular and pleasing. When compared with some others in this class, it suffers in the smoothness of the edge; but for this failing, it would be prominent amongst the very best. A good grower. First bloomed in 1850, sent out last autumn.

Lady Harewood (Schofield).—Heavy-edged. From Favourite (Ely's), by Nulli Secundus. Shows its parentage very distinctly, and would be a most desirable flower, were the marginal colour distributed in an *even* band around each petal. The white is clear and pleasing, the colour bright and distinct, the petal stout, well shaped, and smooth, and the general form good; but wanting the regular distribution of colour above referred to, it will inevitably be placed much lower by the experienced florist than so many good points would seem to warrant, for the simple reason that its harmonious character is destroyed by an incongruous arrangement of colour; and the flower furnishes a striking illustration that a uniform width of colour, whether it be broad or narrow in its character, is imperatively *necessary*, notwithstanding that the very reverse of this has been put forward as recently as 1850. First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1850. A good grower.

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Lady Harriet Moore (Turner).—Heavy-edged. Sent out in 1849. When first shown, it was a light-edge, the side blooms only having rather more colour, but it is now a decided heavy. A capital flower. Petal broad, and smooth and well shaped; white very good; marginal colour, a clear lilac, very regularly laid on; well crowned. The grass is broad and fleshy, pale in colour and of a flowing habit. Grows very freely. Should not have more than two blooms to the plant.

Lord Nelson (Norman).—From Princess Alice (Wood), crossed with pollen from Queen Victoria (Crask). The flower has the rich white and fine colour of the Princess, without the least spot or bar, but has suffered in smoothness from the cross. When well grown, that is, kindly and in good health, this is not very perceptible, and then it is a very fine heavy. The petal is well shaped and the form is good, but unless attended to, shows a disposition to reflex in blooming. A moderate grower; must be kept dry in winter and early spring. First bloomed in 1848, sent out in 1850. Mr. Norman reports the possession of two splendid seedlings, a light-edged and a heavy-edged, which will doubtless be welcomed when attainable.

Lorina (Burroughes).—Light-edged. The best of Mr. Burroughes's *here*, the others refusing to expand freely. A well-shaped flower, with a finely-formed, smooth, and nicely-rounded petal. The white is good and it is of good substance, but the marginal colour is not solid, being composed of a series of fine dots, laid closely one against the other. This is of course a great drawback, its harmony being broken by the absence of a continuity of colour. Grass short, rich, and glaucous in its appearance; peculiarly subject to the attacks of greenfly. Sent out in 1849.

Mrs. Turner (Dodwell).—Raised from Princess Alice. First bloomed in 1849. As a *flower*, this variety has very few rivals; a remark I make with the less hesitation, from the high encomiums it has received from those whose judgments are older than my own. But it is a delicate grower, and I introduce it here to warn those who may desire to possess it, that it will require a careful treatment. It would probably have been out before this, but I nearly lost the stock in an anxious desire to preserve some of the blooms for the trial exhibitions of 1850, when our anti-card friends ran us a close race. For outline, breadth, solidity and clearness of colour, and pure white, Mrs. Turner is pre-eminent; the petal is also very smooth, finely shaped, and gently cupped. It does not rise so high in the crown as Alfred, Duke of Devonshire, and some others. Had it the fine habit and growth of the Duke of Devonshire, it would be the finest picotee in existence. Cannot we florists contrive to combine the richest quality,

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purity, and chasteness with luxuriant growth? Let us try which shall reach the goal first.

Ophelia (May).—Light-edged. A superb variety, undoubtedly an Enchantress breed, and I assume with Portia for the mother plant. Fuller than Enchantress and larger; petal very large, broad, and finely shaped; smooth, though scarcely so smooth as Ganymede, Haidee, or Bridesmaid; white good, and perfectly free from spots or bars; colour, a rich purple, dense and regular. Grows freely, and will be a first-rate sort to work with, as well as exhibit. First bloomed in 1849, sent out in 1851.

Portia (May).—First bloomed in 1845, sent out in 1847. A capital old flower, seeming to get better as it advances in years. Rather thin, and not so refined as some, nor quite so smooth, but with a first-rate petal, very regular marginal colour (a medium-edge), white free from spot or bar, and always true,—always to be depended upon. An extra vigorous grower; crossed with some of the delicate light-edges, or broad heavies, it will assuredly produce a splendid brood.

President (Burroughes).—Dense heavy purple-edge, well formed and full; petal of medium breadth, stout, and fairly smooth; white tolerable; marginal colour solid and regular, but much inclined to bar, for which reason I rejected it some time since. Grows freely.

Prince Albert (Marris).—From the same cross and pod of seed with Prince of Wales, heavy red, before described. For richness of texture and purity, Prince Albert is second to none. It is also beautifully formed and well crowned. The guard petals are broad, and the whole are of fine substance, and very smooth, decreasing in regular gradation in the rise to the crown, but a few of the centre petals are small. It is rather delicate in its growth, and requires care in blooming. An intermediate edge; when very strong, heavy. Sent out in 1848, first bloomed in 1847.

Prince Arthur.—Raised by Robert Fellowes, Esq., at Bitteswell Hall. First bloomed in 1849, sent out in 1851. A most beautiful flower; not *quite* so smooth as Alfred, Rutland, or King of Purples, and therefore placed below those varieties, according to my judgment; but so constant, so good a grower, with so rich a white, and so regular in the colour, that it should be grown everywhere. It is an early bloomer, and comes best from a good piping. The petal is first-rate in form, and as it will seed freely, if impregnated, I have no doubt it will lead to the introduction of flowers of great excellence. Does not need any forcing.

Princess Alice (Wood).—Raised at Huntingdon, and is stated to have first bloomed *about* 1838, but was not sent out before 1843, as the name would indicate, and is offered in Dickson's list for 1844, at fifteen shillings. Origin unknown. An in-

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considerable flower in the south, and rather small here, but exquisite for its purity and clear lilac markings. The flower is moderately full, and requires a little arrangement, as the crown tiers are nearly as large as those below them. The petal is well shaped, very smooth, and of fine substance; the colour solid and of good breadth. It breeds very freely, grows well here, and is and has been a great favourite of mine, though now, for exhibition, it is quite distanced.

Princess Helena (Schofield).—Raised from Enchantress, impregnated with pollen from Burroughes's President. First bloomed in 1849, sent out in 1851. A beautiful light-edge, the best of Mr. Schofield's flowers hitherto proved by me. White first-rate, without spot or bar; colour very solid, and confined to the margin; petal broad, smooth, and of fine substance; flower full-sized, full, and well crowned. It requires some little care in blooming, as the petals over-ride each other, that is, do not imbricate so naturally as is desirable. The grass follows the habit of the male parent; an exception to the general rule. A good grower.

Surprise (Read).—Raised at Clop-hill, in Bedfordshire. A pretty light-edged flower. Well formed; petal well shaped and of good size, smooth and of fair substance; white good; marginal colour regular. Not a strong grower.

Willoughby (Matthews).—From the same raiser's Enchantress. First bloomed in 1849. A good grower. Very large and stout petal, marginal colour regular, and white free from spots; but it is not nearly so smooth as several others, nor so refined in its appearance.

[To be continued.]

NEAPOLITAN AND RUSSIAN VIOLETS.

THESE are extremely useful during our winter and spring months, especially in families where there are young ladies. They are of easy management. The following is my practice:—For the Neapolitans, I take off the runners, as soon as they are large enough, which will be about June. These are planted in prepared beds of loam and leaf mould in equal parts, with the addition of a quantity of rotten manure. The beds are made of such size that a common garden frame will cover them, and the plants are placed about four inches apart all ways. After plant-

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ing, they receive a good watering. They require no more care until August or September, when the frames are put on. As the blooms are wanted all winter, the plants are forced by placing hot stable manure round the outside of the frame, which produces plenty of heat to bring them into bloom by the latter end of September, when, with about three beds, they may be kept in succession until April. The Neapolitan being of a light blue, for the sake of variety, a few of the double tree violet and the double white may be added. For the Russian, the only trouble I take is to plant them at the foot of a south wall, where they will throw up abundance of their deliciously fragrant flowers, from October till April. As the same plantation will only last two years, a fresh lot should be planted every year.

W. S. M. M.

WINDOW GARDENING.

For years, Mr. Editor, I have cultivated a choice small collection of plants, in a south-east window, and as my friends all assure me, that from their luxuriance and beauty, I must have some peculiar way of growing them, I beg to say, that my secret is *attention;* and this being unremitting, I am rewarded accordingly.

I find that when plants have what you nurserymen call "pot-room," though I gain in size of plant, I lose in abundance of bloom, which, with me, is the most desirable thing. My plants in pots are grown in three long wicker baskets (painted green), about eighteen inches wide, by twelve deep, each having a zinc pan, two inches deep, fitted into the bottom. They are placed on stands, in a bay window. My tallest plants I have in the centre one, and the lower sorts on each side. I have several other windows in my house, which are used for plants coming forward, or to

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which they are removed after they have blossomed in my sitting room. In fact, having no greenhouse, and being extremely fond of plants, every window is made more or less subservient to my purpose. I find the best soil is turfy loam, with a portion of decayed leaves, and plenty of silver sand. This a boy mixes according to my directions, and it is kept dry and always ready for use under cover, and I am not ashamed to say that I pot all my plants myself, in fact, attend to them wholly. When I buy a plant, if it require a larger pot, I give it one, keeping the ball as undisturbed as possible; and when my plants, such as geraniums and fuchsias, straggle in their growth, I give them a gentle pinch here and there, which makes them more bushy and handsome. Another thing, I ensure perfect cleanliness, by looking at my plants every morning. They are each watered, and if there is dead leaf, it is plucked off; or if an aphis or greenfly is perceptible, it is brushed away. All this is very little trouble, and it is this systematic attention to my plants which ensures their health, whilst it is a source of unalloyed enjoyment to myself. I found, when I first began the cultivation of window plants, that they appeared to suffer from the heat of the room. I have counteracted this by gathering some clean and beautiful moss, with which our neighbouring woods abound, and, after it was well washed, filling the green baskets, so that it surrounds and just covers the surface of the pots. This saves a great deal of watering, looks clean and tidy, and if kept slightly damp, creates a moist atmosphere around the plants. I find that a fuchsia is a delightful plant for my centre basket; when trained to a single stem, with its branches hanging down, laden with flowers, it is a most beautiful object. Besides fuchsias, of which I have several, I bloom three or four of the cactuses, or, as I think they are now called, epiphyllums. The one named Truncata flowers most beautifully with me, and so does Speciosa. The shrubby sorts of calceolaria

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grow and bloom remarkably well, but must be kept carefully clean. Scarlet geraniums, and other varieties, as well as the fancy sorts, I find very effective. These last are beautiful pot plants. Ericas I have tried several times, but am not successful with them. Cinerarias I manage very well, and they make a great show, but require a good deal of attention. In order to ensure an autumnal bloom, I have chrysanthemums in some reserve windows,—tall ones for my centre basket, and the Lilliputians for the two sides; and these, when kept bushy, are really most delightful in the autumn. Of course I do not know the new sorts, mine are old established varieties. Amongst other plants which I find suitable for windows, are several sorts of mesembryanthemums, lobelias, and petunias; and a most effective plant is the double purple senecio. This I train to a trellis; in fact, I grow all my plants flat, because, as they are much admired, and I am proud of my collection, I wish all the flowers as much as possible to face the light. Formerly, I used to turn them occasionally: this I need not say I have left off, for the above reason. I must caution your readers not to let water stand in the feeding pans. It is more injurious than otherwise, the soil becoming, in consequence, soddened and sour. May I hope that this, my first attempt, will prove acceptable to your readers, and encourage other "window gardeners" to persevere.

ANNE B.

Kidderminster.

DAHLIAS.

THOSE who were acquainted with the dahlia fifteen or twenty years ago, and are now growers of it, will allow that great advance has been made in floriculture; but still we have a wide field open for improvement. For how often is it our lot to meet with good collections of the finest flowers not half managed;

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and again, how often do we meet with people at our floricultural exhibitions who will admire our flowers, but say they are not able to produce them so fine, although they may have the means at hand. To such persons I would say, persevere, give a fair trial, and I think, with a little extra trouble, they may be able to compete with their neighbours, and will also find that floriculture is not only an agreeable, but a pleasing and healthy pursuit.

In the following brief remarks upon the cultivation of the dahlia, I hope to be as plain as the subject will admit. I do not claim to advance anything new, and I hope that what I have to say will be acceptable to the readers of the *Midland Florist*. To begin then at the beginning, I will say a few words on their propagation. If a large number of plants are required, the roots should be placed in a little bottom heat, in February, where they will soon begin to throw up plenty of young shoots. These, as they get about two inches long, should be carefully taken off and put into a frame with a good bottom heat, where they will root freely. As they become rooted, they should be potted off into sixty or forty-eight-sized pots, and returned to the propagating frame. But where there are not so many required, it will do if the roots are started in a gentle heat, in March. When the shoots are long enough, the roots may be divided, being careful to retain a portion of the old root to each shoot. These should be potted, and will soon make fine plants. As the plants become established, they should be repotted as occasion may require, never allowing them to become pot-bound, or they will receive such injury as no after management can remedy. For such plants as are newly brought in from the nursery I should advise an immediate shift into larger pots, and to be placed in a little heat, till they are well-established; after which, they should be gradually hardened, and receive liberal treatment. I do not think it safe to begin planting out before the last week in May, or the first week in

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June; and it would be far better to delay a few days than to let Jack Frost get hold of them. The dahlia prefers a good deep rich loamy soil; and if the ground has been ridged up during the winter, it will be all the better for it. It should receive a good dressing of rotten stable manure, previous to being planted; or I have known some growers to plant in nightsoil, which had been mixed with soil some months previous to using. The plants should be placed six feet apart all ways, and have a stake put to each as the planting proceeds, to which they should be fastened, to keep them from being blown about by the wind. The plants should also receive a good watering, to fasten the soil about them. As they begin to grow, and throw out their side shoots, select four of the strongest on each plant, and train them out to stakes placed about a foot or eighteen inches from the main stem, which must be left for the centre stake. In this way, the plants have great advantage, as the air can get to them much better than when three or four stems are packed together. The next care will be that of disbudding, upon which, I have no doubt, many of the readers of the *Midland Florist* would be glad if some extensive grower would give a descriptive list similar to that on carnations and picotees; for unless growers are acquainted with the different habits of each variety they cultivate, they cannot well be successful. I would gladly undertake the task, were my collection sufficiently large, but occupying the humble position of a gentleman's gardener, I am precluded from the possession of a collection sufficient for the purpose; therefore all that I can say upon this subject is, that all small-growing varieties should be increased in size as much as possible, by being well disbudded; while those that are large should be allowed to carry more shoots as well as blooms, to make them of a more uniform size, as blooms of a regular size greatly improve the appearance of a stand. Dahlias mostly

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require liberal treatment, and should be well supplied with liquid manure during the whole time of their growth. They should also be well syringed with rain water, in the evening, after a hot day's sun, as it greatly assists in refreshing the plants, and adds to their growth. When the plants are beginning to show bloom, they should be carefully gone over every few days, and the buds should be examined, and those that do not promise to be well filled in the centre should be immediately removed, while those that promise to be good, should be carefully protected, by having a thin muslin bag tied over each, to keep them from the ravages of earwigs and other insects. They should remain in these bags till two or three days before they are ready to expand, when they should be taken out and placed in the shades. Of these there are many different kinds in use; one made of tin is the most common, but I do not know that there is anything superior to the common garden pot, inverted on a table, attached to a stake. It is true they are liable to burn on a hot summer's day, but this can be obviated by placing a cabbage or rhubarb leaf over the pot; or should it happen that there are blooms too forward for a coming show, they may be kept a few days longer by placing wet cloths over the shades. The cloths should be dipped in water several times during the day, to keep them moist. There is one thing that I think does not receive sufficient attention from some of our exhibiters, and that is the arrangement of the blooms in the stand. An eye to colour, and a proper distribution of it, does much towards the success of the exhibiter. The following thirty-six varieties will, I think, give satisfaction to whoever may grow them.

George Villars (Union).—Dark purple, fine form, and very constant. Height about 3 feet.

Miss Spears (Lamont).—Beautiful shaded crimson. Should be well thinned of shoots. Height 4 feet.

Richard Cobden (Stein).—Shaded dark. Height 4 feet.

Summit of Perfection (Keynes).—Fine dark purple. 4 feet.

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Sir R. Whittington (Drummond).—Ruby crimson, perfect petal and outline. A noble flower. 4 feet.
Aurora (Keynes).—Fine-formed orange. Requires cutting out. 3 feet.
Duke of Wellington (Drummond).—Fine orange. 4 feet.
Sir F. Bathurst (Keynes).—Fine crimson. 3 feet.
Standard of Perfection (Keynes).—Crimson. 5 feet.
Triumphant (Keynes).—Crimson, occasionally tipped with white. Fine form. 3 feet.
Douglas Jerrold (Keynes).—Dull yellow, tipped with red. Requires cutting out. 3 feet.
John Edwards (Salter).—Bright scarlet. 7 feet.
Louisa Glenny (Rawlings).—Yellow. Good form, small, and rather uncertain. 2 to 3 feet.
Yellow Standard (Keynes).—2 feet.
Queen of Whites (Drummond).—Pure white. Good size and very constant. 2 feet.
Annie Salter (Salter).—Pale peach. Constant. 4 feet.
Barmaid (Holmes).—White, delicately edged with lavender. 4 feet.
Beeswing (Sainsbury).—Ruby. 3 feet.
Dr. Frampton (Rawlings).—White, mottled and edged with purple. Fine form. 5 feet.
Edmund Foster (Turner).—Red. Stout petal and fine form. 3 feet.
Essex Triumph (Turvill).—Dark marone. 4 feet.
Fearless (Barnes).—Fine lilac. 5 feet.
Gem (Oakley).—White, tipped with purple. 3 feet.
General Faucher (Rose).—Shaded rose carmine. 5 feet.
George Glenny (Barnes).—Yellow. Large. 8 feet.
Hon. Mr. Herbert (Dodds).—Yellow and red. 3 feet.
Lizzy (Perry) —White, tipped with purple. 4 feet.
Mrs. Seldon (Turner).—Yellow. Fine. 4 feet,
Mr. Seldon (Turner).—Rosy lilac. Fine. 3 feet.
Princess Radziville (Gaines).—White, mottled and tipped with purple. 3 feet.
Queen of Beauties (Mitchell).—White, tipped with lake. Very inconstant, but beautiful when caught. 4 feet.
Queen of Lilacs (Turner).—Lilac. Fine. 4 feet.
Scarlet Gem (Turner).—Scarlet. Small. 3 feet.
Shylock (Collinson).—Scarlet. 2 to 3 feet.
Sir R. Peel (Drummond).—Scarlet lake, with bronze tip. Finest form, but uncertain. 5 feet.
Sir C. Napier (Hale).—Rich deep scarlet. Fine. 2 feet.

W. S. M. M.

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Part II.

NEW PLANTS.

SARACHA PROCUMBENS, a new plant, allied to the tomato or love apple, is to be tried as an esculent. It is growing in the gardens of the London Horticultural Society.

TROPÆOLUM TRIOMPHE DE GAND is a first-rate climbing plant for the conservatory, blooming most profusely in winter. The flowers are rich orange scarlet.

ANDROMEDA FORMOSA.—In Devonshire, this rare and beautiful plant has stood the effects of the past winter, which has made much havoc with plants not thoroughly hardy. The leaves are very large and fine, the flowers white. It should be in every collection of peat earth shrubs.

RHODODENDRON JASMINIFLORUM.—A beautiful greenhouse plant, introduced into this country from Mount Ophir, by Mr. Lobb. It has the fragrance of the auricula, flowering most profusely. The blossoms are white, with deep pink eye. Its habit is good, and it makes a highly attractive plant.

PETUNIA DALBAERIENSIS.—We had, last season, submitted to our inspection, several flowers of a similar description to this, in which a broad and bright green border formed the chief attraction. The centres were, however, weak in colour. This sort is large in size, with rich rosy purple ground, margined with dark green. Extremely handsome and distinct.

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PHLOX DUBOIS CRITERION.—A continental variety. A really beautiful sort, in this already numerous family. Colour white, mottled with rose.

A new pentstemon, a great acquisition to the class, is now selling out. It is called *Atrocœrulescens*, and may be called dark lilac, or bluish lilac. The flowers are large, and produced freely in fine spikes.

GERANIUM FLORIBUNDUM.—This is a novel and pretty variety for bedding purposes, flowering most profusely. It is very highly recommended. The flowers are white, with a small spot. It is not expensive.

The following are two splendid new rhododendrons:

Princess Marie.—Raised on the Continent. Crimson, with the peculiar purple tinge which we see in some epiphyllums; moreover it is abundantly spotted with black.

Superbissimum album.—This is also beautifully spotted, but the ground colour is creamy white. The truss is large, and the flowers individually are beautifully formed.

These fine varieties are in the hands of several metropolitan growers, but the price is high.

The following are a few new and good shrubby calceolarias, well adapted for bedding purposes:—

Magnificent.—A really splendid sort. Fine crimson, having the upper part, or cap, pure yellow.

The Golden Chain.—A stout flower, of very good habit, blooming most abundantly. Colour deep and brilliant yellow.

Sultana is also yellow, spotted in the interior. A most showy and desirable variety.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

W. W.—Your cineraria, purple, with white ring round the disk, and a crimson one encircling the white one, novel in appearance, but the form not sufficiently good.

ROSE (SEEDLING) SIR W. MILNER.—Globular, large, double, and strongly scented; colour lilac rose. Very promising.

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R. W. R.—Your seedling green-edged auricula, *Amelia*, is very attractive, and will doubtless prove an acquisition to the class.

F. F.—The gorse is pretty. Such a hardy free-flowering shrub, existing where many other plants would die, is very desirable.

J. H.—Your white-ground purple-edged pansy, *Belted Knight*, is good in form, with fine eye. The saffron tint on the lower petal, however, detracts from its merit. The yellow-grounded flower, *Mr. C. Barron*, is better, and is quite as good as very many in its class. It is similar in character to Downie & Laird's Lady Emily, a Scotch flower.

I. S. & S.—Pansies.—*Magnificent*, a most desirable flower. Of large size, rich bronze upper petals, belt the same, strong eye with rich orange ground colour. It blooms flat and in good style. *Victory*, also a yellow ground flower, but in a different style to the preceding, the upper petals and belting being dark puce; the eye is large and well defined; the belting on the three lower petals has a narrow thread of bright gold encircling it. A fine and desirable flower, but of the two we prefer Magnificent.

I. W.—Polyanthus.—Pip round and lacing good. There is a "foxiness," or red shade, between the dark and yellow ground colour, which detracts from its merit.

G. M —Your yellow self pansy, No. 1, is a promising flower, and perhaps, when bloomed under better circumstances, will prove an acquisition to its class, there being a scarcity of good flowers of this colour. The purple-belted one, No. 2, is a bold flower, with fine eye. As received, rather coarse, but with good growing, we have no doubt it will do. However, we should like to see them both again.

J. W.—Polyanthus.—A decent flower. Round and well laced, something in the style of Hufton's Earl Grey, having a slight tinge between the ground colour and the eye, which rather detracts from its merit.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

To the Editor of the Midland Florist.

Sir,—You are generally a candid, although a timid writer, and I never expected to see such a jesuitical and shuffling paragraph from your pen, as that in your May number, headed "The National Tulip Show." When a man is detected in a dishonest action, and exposed, it is natural enough for him to speak of the affair as a "quarrel" between "parties," but that you, who know better, should lend your assistance to mislead the public

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is surprising. Any criminal who holds up his hand at the "Old Bailey," has an equal right to regard his position in the same light—"just a little quarrel, you see, between me and the old gentleman in the wig." True, he gets sent to Botany Bay, as his prototype has been sent to Coventry; but his friends, who are still at large, think "*there are two sides to the question*," and are doubtless of opinion that "*these discussions as to other persons' honesty*" are very disadvantageous. Wishing you and your midland friends a speedy recovery from your wilful blindness,

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

AN HONEST GROWER.

Hackney, 19*th May*, 1853.

[We give insertion to the above as the most effectual check to the repetition of such an effusion, which we omit to characterize only because our doing so would involve the use of terms much stronger than we admit into our work. "An Honest Grower," whilst attacking our timidity, and imputing to us the gravest dishonesty, illustrates his own *courage* by an *anonymous* slander, and exemplifies his *honesty* by dating his communication from Hackney, instead of Brixton, and employing a hired writer, so that his authorship may not be disclosed. We recommend "An Honest Grower" to take warning by the failure of his petty scheme. Similar attempts to belie the truth will meet with a similar result. As to the pleasant assumption that we, and all who think with us, are the criminals "*at large*," we leave it, and the companion assertion, that we lend our assistance to mislead the public, to the exact value which will be attached to them. But, whether our writings are timid or not, we can assure "An Honest Grower," that we shall ever offer the strongest opposition to any proceeding which will not bear the strictest scrutiny; and no verdict given in a closed court, by a packed tribunal, upon uncriticised assertion merely, will ever obtain the sanction of an unbiassed judgment, or anything but the heartiest reprobation from an honest man. "An Honest Grower" can send whom he thinks fit to "Coventry," ourselves included (and if it will save us the disagreeable necessity of reading an effusion like the above, we beg that we may be sent at once); but that the truth may be known, and this is one we have been guilty of keeping from the public, we must remind him, that when his friends, on their own ground, and at their own time, lately attempted to send the gentleman against whom all this spleen is directed to that ancient city, they mustered just fifteen, against a feeble opposition of seventy-five. If these are the "Honest Grower's" victories, what must be his defeats?—ED.]

In the May number of your publication, in answer to R. S., you say, among other things, you wish all florists would for

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once sink their differences at these national demonstrations, and keep their strifes and jealousies to their own districts. Now to this I say amen. Strifes and jealousies often occur simply through difference of opinion. This has been, and I suppose always will be the case. But what shall be done in cases where individuals are convicted of fraud? Shall the rule of the society be simply enforced? shall they lose the benefits then, and so let the matter end? and shall they then be received into society, absolved of all iniquity? Surely you would not defend such a code of morals as this? Then, as to your concluding sentence, about casting the first stone, I hope there are many florists, in all parts of England, who are in a condition to throw a stone upon that score. I am glad to see in the same number of the *Midland Florist*, a declaration on this point, numerously signed by gentlemen of high standing as tulip growers, in the spirit of which I fully concur, as, without calling upon the Nottingham or any other florists to raise a controversy, they simply state their determination not to associate with those who have been convicted of such misdemeanours. We have recently witnessed the dismembering of one of our leading metropolitan societies, through acts of this kind, therefore it is quite time some steps were taken to put an end to such practices. The honest exhibiter cannot feel offended at this declaration. To the other parties I would say, "Let the galled jade wince."—SCRUTATOR.—[Scrutator should have sent his name with his communication, not for publication, but for our own satisfaction.]

TO PREVENT RABBITS DESTROYING TREES AND PLANTS.—We are aware that these animals often do serious damage to young fruit trees, and last season we saw a young plantation of larch and other trees, consisting of six acres, nearly destroyed by them. It happened this last spring, that we had a considerable number of one and two year apple trees, on paradise stocks, and these, in severe weather, usually suffer very much; during the few frosts we had in the early part of the year, several were bitten through, but, as little snow fell, we took no precaution to prevent it. When the snow, which covered the ground for several weeks, came in good earnest, we thought it high time to use a preventive, and following the example of Mr. Rivers, of Sawbridgeworth, we procured a number of pieces of calico, about six inches square, which we dipped in melted brimstone, and

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inserted in cleft sticks, about eighteen inches long. We placed a few here and there amongst the trees, and though many rabbits were about, positively not a tree was touched during the snow. Of course these flags would preserve pink beds, or anything else which these animals might fancy; and it strikes us very forcibly that if the same means were adopted in fields of newly sown corn, we should not have such serious charges made against the rooks as is now usually the case.

MOLES IN GARDENS.—We have heard of "a bull in a china shop," and can picture to ourselves the havoc he would make in such an establishment, but we fancy we have suffered as much, this season, from a mole in our tulip beds, as the most uproarious bull could effect in his caperings. Twenty-five varieties of seedlings were destroyed before they showed above ground, and amongst named ones, valuable sorts, worth twenty pounds, were utterly annihilated. Our tulip-growing and other friends will say, why did you not catch it? Of course every move was made to effect so desirable an object. Strychine was tried, as recommended in the American *Gardener's Chronicle*—traps were set for some time without effect; but at last he paid the penalty of his transgressions, and as we took him out of the trap, we thought what a *dear* mole he was. We did not for a moment suppose that he was engaged in anything but pursuing and capturing the wireworms, which were rather plentiful in the rotten turf soil of the bed; but on examining the bulbs, they appeared as if bitten and partly eaten, and in some instances, every vestige had disappeared. Now we think that information on this subject would be highly desirable. Our impression is, from their mutilated state, that the mole actually destroyed the bulbs, though most probably with his claws, and we shall be glad to hear from any of our tulip-growing readers whether they have observed similar instances of destruction.

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THE CHELLASTON SEEDLING TULIPS.—Myself, with many others, though admiring these beautiful flowers, are sadly puzzled about their names. We cannot now prevent the confusion which has arisen, truly, but something might be done to remedy it. If an exhibition for these flowers only were started, it would probably be a step in the right direction. They would then be shown in the names under which the growers received them, or they may have given them on their breaking from the breeder, and a committee of the whole growers present might decide which was the proper designation. There can be no mistake about such as Pilot, Princess Royal, Maid of Orleans, and Lady Jane Grey. Those who are well acquainted with them may be enabled to name many others. I think that some such step should be adopted, and perhaps some of your readers may suggest a better plan.

A NEW AND EXCELLENT VEGETABLE.—THE CAIOTA (SECHIUM EDULE, OR SICYOS EDULIS).—This interesting and valuable plant was introduced to St. Michael's, from Madeira. I believe it to be the Sechium edule of Jamaica. It is perennial, and from October to February bears abundance of its delicious culinary fruit. It is esteemed by the Portuguese beyond their native cabbage, and that speaks volumes in its favour. The substance of the caiota is much firmer before and when cooked than that of the vegetable marrow; its taste partakes of the flavour of the asparagus and cauliflower. In my opinion, it is the most delightful vegetable I have ever eaten. So much is it esteemed by the Portuguese, that they think the English cannot fail to like it, and are making attempts to export it for the London market, as it will keep in a fresh state a long time. I think it could be easily cultivated in England, growing as it does through the summer months, and producing its fruit at a cold season, it would merely require protecting from the frost. Yielding its fruit at a time when other vegeta-

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bles are scarce, it would be invaluable to gardeners, and a great addition to the dinner table. The caiota attains the weight of two or three pounds, delights in a rich soil, and will grow trailing on the ground in the same manner as the vegetable marrow; but the approved way of cultivating it by the Portuguese is to plant it against and allow it to run over a high wall. It will bear pruning to any extent. The fruit of the caito has a rugged roundish form, of a pale yellow colour, and somewhat resembles the fruit of the shaddock. The pulp is pure white.—*Journal of the Horticultural Society.*

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—We are glad to find, from a report of the proceedings of this *truly* valuable society, that a collector is about to be despatched to Mexico, where so many beautiful and hardy plants have been discovered, and introduced into this country, and we think the plan now to be adopted will be far preferable to previous ones. The collector, on his arrival, will settle down at Mount Orizaba, and remain there till he has collected all that will be worth introducing. He will thus be able to see the vegetation of the district through all its phases of development, have every opportunity of collecting roots, seeds, and plants, with abundant means of packing securely, without let or hindrance. When collectors are moving through a country, much of their discovery must depend on chance, and many valuable plants are of course missed; but in this case we should imagine that every hill or ravine will be thoroughly investigated, and from this systematic mode we anticipate a rich harvest.

The camellia may be propagated by cuttings, but the usual practice is to graft or inarch on the single and Middlemiss's red, cuttings of which root freely. After being prepared and potted in very sandy soil, and watered, they should be placed in a cold frame, till calliced, and then introduced into gentle bottom

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heat, where they will soon form roots. They may be potted singly, in small pots, early in spring, or as soon as they are rooted, and kept close and warm, till they have completed their growth, when they should be gradually hardened off. The best plants will be ready to be used for stocks at the proper season, but the smaller ones will require another year's growth. Grafting is generally performed in autumn, and the plants should be kept in a close house or pit, until a union is effected. The best time for inarching is just before the plants begin to grow.

In communicating the following fact, I do not pretend to vouch for its being an unfailing remedy, but simply record it as entitled to observation. A friend of mine observing an apple tree in his garden attacked by the aphis lanigera, or American bug, plucked a rhubarb leaf from an adjoining bed, and rubbed the tree with it till they appeared to be removed. They entirely disappeared, nor has he, after a lapse of twelve months, perceived any indication of their return. Whether the expressed juice of rhubarb is an acid fatal to these pests further experiment must determine. Many useful inventions have originated from purely accidental circumstances, and this, from its singularity, seems to demand something more than a passing notice.—R. M.

Part III.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Will you oblige a contributor by stating in your next number what he should apply as liquid manure to carnations and picotees,—the proportions of the mixture, and how often it should be applied?

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I often see the employment of "leaves" recommended, in preference to *stable stuff*, for hotbeds. Will you do me the favour of telling, in the next *Midland Florist*, how the leaves should be preserved, to be in a right state to take heat. We have abundance, which are laid in heaps every year, to become soil, but last year's would not now, I fancy, do for a heat. I mean they must have already heated. L. W.

Do you recommend roasting or burning a portion of the surface of poor stiff clay land. I have lately purchased a piece of ground for a garden. The land is of the poorest description; there is a sour rushy turf, five to six inches deep, and then a strong brick clay. At a distance of three or four hundred yards, fifteen to twenty acres of land are occupied as a market garden, and has been so for a number of years. The proprietor had a portion of land that he was quite at a loss what to do with. About four years since, he dug it up about eighteen inches deep, and made it in the form of a potato hog, adding as he went on as much small coal as he thought would burn or roast it through. When he saw the crops coming up, he was so satisfied that he immediately roasted a larger quantity, and intends to roast a much larger portion next autumn. He says his crops are cleaner, and his land is worked for twenty-five per cent. less. He has done with slugs, a great pest in a clay garden. He saved a considerable quantity of early potatoes, without a single diseased one; and the bulk of his vegetables from seven to ten days earlier. Now will some of your numerous correspondents give us the benefit of their opinion, and if they have experienced anything of the sort, so much the better? I believe it was introduced here six or seven years ago, by a Yorkshire farmer. To roast or not to roast, that is the question.

Longton, Potteries. LONGTONIAN.

[ROAST—by all means.]

We have the following query:—My small conservatory has *no* other heat than that which proceeds from the fire of the adjoining room, and a gas light, which I keep burning during severe winter nights. My plants, though not frosted, do not look well.

[Of course not. We should advise the gas light to be done away with at all events. The air is poisoned, and plants, like human beings, suffer from it. Grow camellias, Indian azaleas, rhododendrons, &c., in fact, a hardier race of plants, and you will succeed.]

RECTOR.—The following hardy climbing plants would suit your purpose:—Aristolochio sipho, Hedera latifolia variegata, Ampelopsis virginica, the Russian pyracantha, and Cratægus crenulata.

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W. S.—In reply to yours, asking the proper time to sow camellia seeds, which you have received from the Continent, we beg to say, that you are full late enough. February or the beginning of March, would have been the proper time. You had better sow directly, placing the pots in a frame or pit, where you have a command of bottom heat. As soon as the plants are up and can be safely handled, prick them out in small pots, and give every care to them.

R. T.—The Magnolia grandiflora is a splendid evergreen shrub, and will suit your south wall admirably. The flowers are large, vaselike, and powerfully fragrant.

S. P.—The pinks you name will not now do, they are too small, too much serrated on the margin, and too thin. You are also behindhand. Get young plants early in the autumn. Previous to that time, however, we will furnish you with a list of varieties you may safely purchase.

Window Plants.—No doubt, from your description of the state of the plants, they are suffering from the dry atmosphere of the room. This must be avoided by occasionally syringing them, and keeping moderately moist. The insects may be brushed off with a large camelhair brush. This is better than bruising them between the fingers. A notice of the cultivation of these plants, with a few of the best, is given in this number.

MY GARDEN.

No. VI.

It still remains, even amongst our best cultivators, a disputed point whether the auricula should be repotted immediately the bloom has declined, or in July and August. "When doctors differ, who's to decide?" I cannot pretend authoritatively to settle the question, but shall, for my own part, adopt the former plan. It will be necessary to attend most carefully to giving a suitable supply of moisture, as the plants may require it; and also to be watchful against greenfly, which is sure to make its appearance. My auriculas are still in good order, and will continue objects of interest for a fortnight longer. The frame faces north-east, so that only the morning sun is allowed to affect the plants. The following varieties are very

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fine, and will be sure to please:—Headley's Excellent, Taylor's Glory, Sykes's Complete, Fletcher's Ne plus ultra, Conqueror of Europe, Prince of Wales, Lovely Ann, and last, but not least, for they are probably the very best yet out, Beeston's Apollo and Cheetham's Lancashire Hero. Polyanthuses should be parted, and planted in a shady situation, where they will not receive any of the direct rays of the sun after eight or nine o'clock; being of similar habit to the common primrose, they delight, during summer, in shade and moisture. Pansies in beds will be in perfection early in June, and spring-struck cuttings should be planted in a moist place, to give a succession of bloom. Pinks must be watered occasionally with liquid manure; as the pods swell, tie them with a small piece of matting, to prevent their splitting, and towards the end of the month, commence piping. Hollyhocks will now bear an increased supply of moisture; they must on no account be allowed to suffer from drought. If the spikes are wanted for exhibition, only one must be left to each plant; the other shoots may be used as cuttings. Seed should be sown at once. Dahlias may be planted out, and securely staked at the same time. Carefully attend to watering, that the plants may not receive any check. If greenfly attack the ends of the shoots, as is often the case, the brush will be a safer remedy than tobacco water. Roses must be mulched and watered; the use of the syringe will also prove beneficial. Carnations and picotees will need daily watching, in the way of tying; thrips and greenfly will very soon commence the attack, let the florist not be behindhand, or his hopes of a good bloom may very soon be destroyed. Water well, both the soil and overhead; the latter will do them much service. Tulips will soon be occupying the thoughts and time of the florist in a pre-eminent degree. The enjoyment is of short duration, but every ardent grower thinks it amply repays his twelve months' toil and care; and though perhaps not quite so ardent in

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the pursuit as some of my readers, I must admit that few floricultural sights are more gorgeous than a well arranged tulip bed. The seed vessels should be broken off as the bloom withers, for the ripening the seed would injure the bulb. The foliage will quickly turn brown, and as soon as the stem will bend without breaking, commence taking up the bulbs. Dry them carefully in a cool airy place, avoiding exposure to the sun's rays.

In the greenhouse, pelargoniums will now be in perfection, and may be kept so several weeks, if carefully shaded and bees be excluded. If seed be required, hybridizing must be resorted to, but not on those plants that are intended for specimens next year, as the length of time required for ripening the seed, would prevent the plants being cut back at proper time. As the roots of fuchsias fill the pots, liquid manure may be used beneficially. All plants for ornamenting the open borders should be got out as soon as possible.

J. J. C.

May 17th, 1853.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

FALKIRK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the Red Lion Inn, April 27.

AURICULAS.

Pans of Four.—1. Page's Champion, Sykes's Complete, Summerscale's Catherina, and Smith's Mrs. Smith, Mr. Peter Campbell. 2. Smith's Waterloo, Fletcher's Mary Ann, Taylor's Glory, and Smith's Mrs. Smith, Mr. A. Lyle.

Best of any Class.—Booth's Freedom, Mr. Campbell.

Green-edged	*White-edged.*
1 Booth's Freedom, Mr. Campbell	1 Taylor's Glory, Mr. Campbell
2 Smith's Waterloo, Mr. Lyle	2 Catherina, Mr. Lyle
Grey-edged.	*Selfs.*
1 Conqueror, Mr. Lyle	1 Othello, Mr. Campbell
2 Ditto, ditto	2 Mrs. Smith, Mr. Lyle

SEEDLINGS.—First-class certificate of merit awarded to a green-edge, shown by Mr. Campbell, a fine circular pip, deep green edge, black ground, pure white paste, and good tube. Certificates of merit were also awarded to a white-edge, exhibited by Mr. C. Jeffrey, and a grey-edge, exhibited by Mr. Lightbody—both fine flowers.

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STOCKPORT AURICULA SHOW.

At the house of Mr. Joseph Gleave, the Golden Ball, April 30.

Maiden Prize.—Booth's Freedom, I. Moores.
Premier Prize.—Kenyon's Ringleader, J. Moores.

Green-edged.

1 Booth's Freedom, I. Moores
2 Lady Ann Wilbraham, J. Moores
3 Litton's Imperator, J. Whitehead
4 Pollitt's Highland Boy, J. Moores
5 Prince of Wales, I. Moores
6 Howard's Nelson, N. Wood
7 Ruler of England, ditto
8 Barlow's King, J. Moores

Grey-edged.

1 Kenyon's Ringleader, J. Moores
2 Sykes's Complete, I. Moores
3 Grime's Privateer, J. Whitehead
4 Oliver's Lovely Ann, ditto
5 Kent's Queen Victoria, ditto
6 Fletcher's Ne plus ultra, J. Moores
7 Fletcher's Mary Ann, J. Whitehead
8 Waterhouse's Conqueror, ditto

White-edged.

1 Lee's Venus, G. Holland
2 Ashworth's Regular, J. Moores
3 Taylor's Glory, ditto
4 Summerscale's Catherina, N. Wood
5 Chancellor, J. Moores
6 Hallamshire, J. Whitehead
7 Ashton's Bonny Lass, ditto

Selfs.

1 Redman's Metropolitan, J. Moores
2 Netherwood's Othello, ditto
3 Blue Bonnet, I. Moores
4 Unknown, N. Wood
5 Oddy's Rest, J. Whitehead

Alpines.

1 Conspicua, J. Whitehead
2 Oldham Hero, ditto

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Seedling, J. Moores
2 Maude's Beauty of England, N. Wood
3 Lord Lincoln, ditto
4 Lord John Russell, J. Moores
5 Exile, N. Wood
6 Nicholson's King, J. Moores
7 Seedling, ditto
8 Cheshire Favourite, J. Whitehead
9 George IV., J. Moores

LEEDS CENTRAL FLORAL SOCIETY.

May 3.

Judges.—Messrs. Rhodes, Bailey, and Bowers.

AURICULAS.

1st Pan. Othello, Prince of Wales, Ashworth's Regular, and Ringleader, W. Dobbings. 2nd. Lord Lee, Imperator, Lovely Ann, and Venus, J. Bramma. 3rd. Lud, Lady Ann Wilbraham, Catherina, and Privateer, J. Cawthorn.
Premium.—Prince of Wales, W. Dobbings.

Green-edged.

1 Lovely Ann, W. Dobbings
2 Imperator, J. Bramma
3 Lady Wilbraham, J. Cawthorn
4 Ne plus ultra, J. Bramma
5 Lovely Ann, W. Dobbings
6 Ditto, ditto

Grey-edged.

1 Lovely Ann, J. Bramma
2 Privateer, J. Cawthorn
3 Royton's Sovereign, W. Dobbings
4 Complete, J. Cawthorn
5 Ditto, J. Fryer
6 Ne plus ultra, J. Cawthorn

White-edged.

1 Bright Venus, J. Bramma
2 Catherina, W. Dobbings
3 Lily of the Valley, J. Fryer
4 Catherina, J. Cawthorn

Selfs.

1 Othello, J. Bramma
2 Ned Lud, J. Cawthorn
3 Lord Lee, J. Bramma
4 Flora's Flag, J. Fryer
5 Nonsuch, ditto
6 Othello, J. Bramma

Alpines.

1 Seedling, J. Cawthorn
2 Fair Ellen, ditto
3 Seedling, J. Fryer
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Barstow's Seedling, J. Bramma
6 Seedling (Scarcroft), J. Cawthorn

POLYANTHUSES.

Dark Ground.

1 Alexander, J. Fryer
2 Beauty of England, ditto
3 Seedling, ditto
4 Ditto, J. Kearsley
5 Ditto, J. Fryer
6 Royal Sovereign, J. Cawthorn

Red Ground.

1 Bullock's Lancer, J. Fryer
2 Exile, ditto
3 Buck's George IV., J. Cawthorn
4 Seedling, J. Kearsley
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Lancer, J. Fryer

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NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

May 5.

Beaute de l'Europe, a very beautiful azalea, which was rewarded with a first-class certificate. It was forwarded from Lisle, in France, by M. Miellez. The ground colour is delicate pink, with lighter margin, striped and mottled with deep rose. The petals were broad, round, and stout. It was greatly admired.

A fine border polyanthus, with double flowers, red, margined with yellow, from Mr. Dobson, of Isleworth, also had a first-class certificate.

Prince Albert polyanthus, exhibited by Mr. Mocket, gardener to I. Allnutt, Esq., a certificate of merit.

Bousie's cineraria, Optima, received a certificate of merit. It is in the style of Lady Hume Campbell, with larger flowers and darker disk.

Hall's Monarch pansy, a splendid bold yellow ground flower, and Bragg's Mr. Thompson, were also greatly admired. These received certificates at the Royal South London, on the 26th of April. (See report.)

HALIFAX AURICULA SHOW.

Odd Fellows' Hall, May 7.

1st Premium. Fletcher's Ne plus ultra, R. Summerscales. 2nd. Waterhouse's Shakspere, J. Chapman. 3rd. Netherwood's Othello, J. Womersley.

Green-edged.

1 Beeston's Apollo, W. Baildon
2 Oliver's Lady Ann Wilbraham, J. Chapman
3 Ashton's Prince of Wales. J. Womersley
4 Booth's Freedom, R. Summerscales
5 Headley's Conductor, W. Baildon
Highland Boy, J. Chapman

Grey-edged.

1 Fletcher's Mary Ann, J. Chapman
2 Kenyon's Ringleader, R. Summerscales
3 Sykes's Complete, J. Chapman
4 Waterhouse's Conqueror of Europe, J. Chapman
5 Oliver's Loveiy Ann, R. Summerscales
6 Seedling (Primo), J. Womersley

White-edged.

1 Sumerscales's Catherina, W. Baildon
2 Hepworth's Briton, R. Summerscales
3 Ashworth's Regular, W. Baildon
4 Mellor's Reform, J. Chapman
5 Taylor's Glory, ditto
6 Schofield's Maid of the Mill, Chapman

Selfs.

1 Smith's Mrs. Smith, W. Baildon
2 Berry's Lord Lee, R. Summerscales
3 Lightbody's Admiral of the Blue, W. Baildon
4 Grime's Flora's Flag, J. Womersley
5 Hufton's Squire Mundy, R. Summerscales
6 Headley's Royal Purple, W. Baildon

Alpines.

1 Fair Ellen, J. Womersley
2 Fieldhouse's Fair Rosamond, R. Summerscales
3 Conspicua, J. Womersley

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Alexander, R. Summerscales
2 Seedling, ditto
3 Gibbons's Royal Sovereign, ditto
4 Summerscales's Warrior, ditto
5 Maude's Beauty of England, ditto
6 Seedling, W. Baildon

THE GREAT NATIONAL TULIP SHOW.

At the Corn Exchange, Nottingham, May 25.

Class A.

1 Mr. J. Godfrey, Chellaston
2 Mr. T. Allistree, Draycott
3 Mr. C. Spencer, Thulston

Class B.—Twelve Dissimilar Blooms.

1 Mr T. Allistree, Draycott
2 Mr. Marsden, Derby
3 Rev. S. Creswell, Radford
4 Mr. C. Turner, Slough
5 Mr. W. Parkinson, Derby

Class C.—Six Dissimilar Blooms.

1 Mr. Houghton, Nuttall
2 Mr. Lawrence
3 Mr. Clarkson, Colwick
4 Mr. Edwards, Holloway
5 Mr. W. Lymbery, Nottingham
6 Mr. W. Parkinson, Derby
7 Mr. Marsden, Derby
8 Mr. Towle, Stapleford
9 Mr. Thornily, Stockport
10 Mr. Hudson, Kingston

Breeder Pans.

1 Mr. Turner, Slough
2 Mr. Gibbons, Bramcote
3 Mr. Battersby, Mansfield

Time being up—or going to press—we must report at length next month.

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Part X.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE NATIONAL TULIP SHOW, FOR 1853.

Of course it will be expected that we should give some account of the great national tulip show, held at Nottingham this year, and we think we may venture to say, that for quality of flowers, it was eclipsed by none of its predecessors. The weather, a short time previous to the exhibition, had been very unfavourable, and some parties talked seriously of altering the day to a later period; this we think would have been bad policy, in a national exhibition of this kind; for exhibiters who, in forward situations, might have been ready on the day originally named, would have been hardly and unjustly dealt with, had an alteration taken place to suit other parties. Our experience of the show at Nottingham, this year, leads us to think, that there are certain fundamental rules which ought to be abided by at every exhibition, and we think the plan adopted at York was the best. We hope our readers who are interested in the matter will take the subject into consideration; and though dictation is no part of our policy, yet we trust a kindly suggestion may not be out of place. We think, then, that our Nottingham committee would have done better by naming three days, and forwarding voting papers to each exhibiter, so that the majority might fix the period of exhibition. The same ought to be done with the judges; those with a majority of votes taking the precedence. This plan would silence all complaints as to time or efficiency.

In the usual place will be found a full report of the prizes awarded. We shall here allude only to

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those flowers which struck us as being well done, but previously to doing so, with all due feeling for the judges, we must say that we think they ought to have "wiped their spectacles;" for in truth, no show yet has given so much dissatisfaction. Purity, which ought to have been indispensable, was in several cases completely overlooked; and had the stamens of Lord Denman been seen, in the first stand, with the very questionable character of two others, the third stand would probably have taken its place. Then again, the sad oversight of placing Mr. Allestree's stand of what ought to have been twelve dissimilar blooms, with two Gems (feathered byblœmen) in it. They were like as peas, and what was more, had each their "title" prominently displayed. Our friend Mr. Houghton's stand, however, got put under the table, for having two Royal Sovereigns. The Gems were evidently a mistake of Mr. Allestree's, and we trust that the loss of the cup (which, as the conditions were not complied with, was taken by Mr. Marsden, the next placed), will make him more careful for the future. In the first stand, the most noticeable flowers were Heroine and Royal Sovereign, whilst Lord Denman, though splendidly marked, had stained stamens. In the second stand, Duke of Devonshire was the most beautiful flower of the sort we have hitherto seen, and we think would prove highly gratifying to many florists present, who had not previously seen it. It combined form, purity, size, and richness of colour, with perfect marking, a broad black feather on a yellow ground, and certainly was one of the gems of the exhibition. In this stand was also a first-rate Salvator Rosa, a byblœmen, which needs only to be seen to be appreciated; and Gem (Abbot), a feathered byblœmen, which, though beautifully marked, appeared to throw back the points of its petals too much. We had not observed this before, and fancy that hard tying up had something to do with it. In the third stand, Victoria Regina, feathered byblœmen, was shown in pretty good style.

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This is a crack flower of Mr. Groom's, of London, for which he asked fifty pounds. Midland Beauty, a heavy feathered rose, was shown in good character, and when caught is really a splendid variety.

In class B., the stand to which the cup was eventually awarded, contained a fine feathered Polyphemus. Our exhibiting friends may think themselves fortunate when they possess this fine strain. Earl Douglas, feathered bizarre, not much known in the midlands, was also good; and so was that really splendid flower, Pilot. In the following stand was Sphinx (a feathered bizarre, of the Duke of Devonshire breed), Rose Emily, and Bacchus (byblœmen), all exceedingly fine flowers. In the next also Pilot was excellent. So was Magnificent, a south country flower, figured a few years ago in the *Florist*. We have tried it many times, but it has always been loose, flushy, and of no character. This, however, was really excellent, and we mention it more particularly to impress on the minds of beginners the importance of getting good strains. Claudiana was also very fine, and of this we may say precisely the same thing. Aidecamp (bizarre) and Lady Stanley were the most striking flowers in the last stand. We cannot close this part of our remarks without noticing the disqualified stand;—it may be called "*a gem* of a stand." The flowers were good, particularly Queen Charlotte, Captain White, and Princess Royal, the latter having come in splendid style this season; in fact, no bed can be considered complete without it.

In the stands of six was a fresh flower, called "First-rate." It was a very pretty byblœmen, having a slight beam. We like it best, however, in its purely flamed state, when (and we say it advisedly) it is able to compete with the very best flamed byblœmen ever exhibited. Following close on the heels of these, were a most beautiful Salvator Rosa, with a new and delicate rose, Clarissima, feathered, with a slight crimson beam. It really was one of the most

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delicate and delightful flowers of the exhibition. In the third stand was seen what clean, fresh, and finely-marked flowers could do. Had it not been that form was against them, they would have been placed higher. The following were perfect, as far as they could be:—Duc de Savoy, Heroine, Black Bagot, and Wallers. In the fourth stand, Charlotte, Pilot, and Addison were most noticeable; whilst in the fifth were a delicate feathered byblœmen, named Mrs. Lymbery, and a heavy dark flame, called Nepaulese Prince. This last, we fear, is an old friend with a new name. It certainly is a Chellaston seedling, but very good. In the sixth stand was Lady Colville, a flamed rose, pure, and of good character. It has been lost sight of for some years, for we grew half-a-dozen of it twenty years ago, when Rose Unique was in its glory, and though not beamed and feathered like the last-named variety, still its purity makes it friends, whilst Unique is not now tolerated in the midlands. Buckley's Beauty was here delicate, beautiful, and pure!! In the eighth stand, Midland Beauty was most conspicuous. In the ninth, General Barneveldt, black feather, on a pure white ground, was very fine; whilst Queen Charlotte brought up the rear, in the tenth, in fine style.

The premiers were fine flowers. The feathered Polyphemus was the best ever shown in Nottingham. The flame was also excellent. Godet Parfait excited much attention, and was a very delicate and pretty feathered flower. Princess Royal was splendid; and both Heroine and Magnificent were excellent.

In the classes, we were sorry to see a stained flower placed second amongst the feathered bizarres. It was called Surpass Optimus, but assuredly not that variety. The most attractive flower was a Lord Denman, in a feathered state. This stood first, and deservedly so. Bagot was coarse, and out of its place. Roscius was a beautiful flower, better than

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usually seen. Mr. C. Turner's flamed Alexander Magnus was a very fine flower; whilst the favourites of the midlands, and favourites we hope everywhere else, took the next places in good style; and a heavy flower, named Othello, brought up the rear. This was very rich in colour, but rather long in cup.

In feathered roses, independent of well-known varieties, were two seedlings of Mr. John Spencer's, both very pretty. The one called Nymph, which was placed third, will certainly make a first-class flower. In flames, Mr. John Battersby's Camilla was a well-marked novelty, beautiful in colour, and a decided acquisition. In the seedling class, there were not so many flowers staged as we anticipated, still Earl of Richmond (Slater) was a very promising feathered bizarre; then came Mr. Jackson, with Queen Victoria, a neat feathered rose, and Lady Clifton in a flamed state. It is singular that the stamens of this variety are stained when a breeder, but when rectified they become pure. The breeders were not exhibited in such force as we expected, but those of Mr. Turner were certainly very fine.

At the dinner, after the exhibition, when the whereabouts of the show for 1854 was discussed, it was proposed that Mr. C. Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, who represented the south country florists, should accept it for them. This he agreed to do; consequently, we understand, it will be held in the Surrey Zoological Gardens, perhaps one of the most beautiful and appropriate places for an exhibition of this kind in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. One word before we close the subject: we should be glad if some southern grower would give us a list of the flowers, now usually shown in the metropolis, that are impure; whilst we must trust to some northern friend for a similar enumeration of those in their part of the country. This will be a great help to all intending exhibiters, and will be a good guide to purchasers.

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CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

[Continued from page 174.]

PICOTEES.—ROSE-EDGED.

Attraction (Fellowes).—Heavy-edged. An early and free bloomer, and good grower; full, without confusion, and of good size. The petal is well shaped, the white good, and the colour regularly distributed, but rather pale and poor. With a richer colour, it would be a most useful variety. Sent out in 1851.

Alice (Dodwell).—Heavy-edged. Raised from Princess Alice. A flower of remarkable refinement; small, and quite thin enough, and a very indifferent grower.

Countess Howe (Marris).—Light-edged. A seedling from Lady Alice Peel. First bloomed in 1849, sent out in 1851. A fine formed flower; petal very broad, smooth, and of good substance; the white clear and rich; and the colour, a bright rose, in proper character, laid evenly round every petal, so as worthily to rival Mrs. Barnard. But it is necessary to say, that it is apt to come with the marking broken into numerous fine dashes, so that we have still to look for a permanent rival to the proud mistress of the class.

Calliope (May).—One of the new varieties, sent out last autumn. My note of it is short enough. "Medium edge, full, and a good average flower."

Grace Darling (Marris).—Heavy-edged. From the same parent and same batch with Countess Howe. A good heavy. When bloomed as a seedling, the marginal colour was solid, but as I have seen it since that time, it has been a "feather-edge." It is, however, very regular, and confined to the margin. The white is good, and the petal broad, well shaped, and fairly smooth. Colour a pale orange rose. Habit of grass very similar to the parent, and not a strong grower.

Jeanette (Marris).—Heavy-edged. A seedling from Princess Alice. First bloomed in 1850, sent out with the above. In proper character and strongly grown, this is a most beautiful flower; thin enough, and rather small, but of exquisite quality, with a marginal colour of the richest rose, solid, regular, and entirely confined to the edge. It must not have more than two blooms on a plant, and must be kept from wet during the early spring months. If not in strong health, the flower is worthless. It has been stated to be flimsy, and washy and poor in its colour. When *well done*, it is both stout and smooth, with a colour of the true Barnard tint. The habit of grass is small.

Julia (May).—Sent out last autumn. Heavy-edge. Colour dense, approaching scarlet in its shade; full, and very dis-

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tinct; petal smooth and of good shape. A good grower, closely following Sebastian in its habit of grass, and very possibly a seedling from that variety.

Lamia (May).—Sent out with the above. A full flower, and apparently very constant. Petal well formed and smooth; colour well laid on and broad, but pale in its shade. Too pale, though otherwise very pretty. A vigorous grower.

Mary Elizabeth (Adams).—A seedling from Mrs. Bevan. Rather early in bloom; a strong grower, and a very desirable addition to the class. Petal broad, stout, smooth, and well formed; white good and very free from bars; colour very regular (a medium breadth), but rather dull or "rusty" in its appearance. This is a fault in an otherwise first-rate variety. First bloomed in 1851, not yet sent out.

Miss Rosa (Merryweather).—Sent out in 1849. Origin unknown. A really sweet flower; on the home stage, one of the most attractive of this most attractive class. Colour, a bright salmon, regularly and evenly laid round every petal in a solid band, of medium breadth; white exceedingly rich; size large. The petal is a "*leetle*" too long to be first-rate in shape, and a tyro will do well not to attempt the "dressing" of it, lest he "spoil a horn," whilst naturally it is a *telling* and effective variety. A capital grower; luxuriates in a generous soil.

Mrs. Barnard (Barnard).—Light-edge. Mr. Rivers, in his delightful *Reminiscences of Roses*, tells us we may always depend upon a rose when it bears the name of the raiser's wife; and he quaintly adds, "for if she be a good wife he will not name a bad flower after her, and if she be a termagant she will take good care an inferior variety does not bear her name;" a rule with which most of my married friends will doubtless agree, and which, in my experience, may be applied very safely to the picotee. First shown in 1841, when it obtained the first prize in the *seedling* class, and an extra prize as the best *seedling* exhibited. When sent out the succeeding year (by I. & I. Dixon, of Acre-lane, Brixton), the assumption thus raised that it was a new variety from seed, was left untouched, but subsequent experience has demonstrated beyond a doubt that this was not the case, the flower being a sport or break from Giddens's Miss Desborough, to which, under unfavourable circumstances, it has a constant tendency to return. But though it would have been more becoming the candour of a florist to have given the full history of such a pet, any reservation on that head in no way detracts from the beauty of the flower, which is, indeed, loveliness itself, is, not merely not excelled, but scarcely rivalled in its class, and at this day, would be one among the best twelve, or even six picotees in cultivation. This is a high character, and it well deserves it, for where do we find a

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first stand without the "peerless Barnard?" Rather thin (though I have seen it with twenty-five petals), and of medium size; petal quite a model for shape and habit, gently cupped, very smooth, and of good substance; white clear, rich, and sparkling; and colour, a bright rose, evenly laid round every petal in an unbroken line of the thickness of the petal's substance. A good grower, though often made delicate by injudicious treatment; of a tall habit, and the grass mottled and streaked something like the foliage of a broken tulip. To be seen in its best character, too strong plants can scarcely be selected, they should be carefully shielded from drip and excessive moisture, during the winter and early spring months, and as soon as the blooming pots become filled with roots, a liberal allowance of clear and weak manure water should be applied. Mrs. Barnard will seed very freely, but hitherto its progeny has disappointed the hope its excellent properties would suggest. It is singularly sportive; from one pod of seed I have bloomed every class of carnations and picotees in existence, and others, not as yet recognized.

Princess Royal (Willmer).—Sent out about ten years since. A flower of rich quality, fair substance, and bright colour,—the latter being a bright rosy buff,—and has long been esteemed in this limited class; but for smoothness and large well-formed petals, it is sadly behind many varieties of the other classes, and several in this. It is full and moderately high in the crown, and very often shown, but flowers such as this, with small and narrow petals, cannot live long with us, whatever may be their quality. Narrow in its habit of grass and rather delicate in growth.

Queen Victoria (Green).—About the same age as the preceding, or perhaps a year younger, as I have not been able to obtain the precise year of its introduction. Raised in the neighbourhood of Cambridge, from Purchas's Granta. Very opposite to the preceding in its characteristics; not so refined, nor so bright in colour, neither is it any smoother, and to all this must be added, it is very flimsy; still it is a most striking and useful flower, being of good size and great depth, having a large well-shaped petal, with a broad band of colour, and a well-finished crown. Extremely shy in its growth, in fact, appearing to baffle every cultivator.

Rosalind (May).—Sent out last autumn. A very distinct bright edge, fine Barnard petal, and of fine quality. A capital grower apparently.

Unexpected (Marris).—As the name given to it by my esteemed friend implies, something very novel, and unexpected in its character, and another illustration of those surprisings which attend the careful seedling raiser. Raised from Wood's Princess Alice, heavy purple, it is a rose, shaded with lilac, something like the colour of a well grown hydrangea. The

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colour is very regular and rich; the petal stout, well shaped, and smooth; and the white, like all Princess Alice seedlings, exceedingly pure. It is of medium size, and not over full. The grass short, and rather pale in colour. First bloomed in 1849, sent out last autumn. In noticing it as a seedling, the editor of this work, at page 376, for 1849, remarks, "though scarcely showable in any class, as classes are at present constituted, yet, from its attractive features, it will have many admirers." Now I wish to ask my brother florists, as I have asked myself, whether, if in the judgment of a gentleman as experienced as Mr. Wood, classes are so constituted *at present* that a variety sure to "have many admirers," "from its attractive features," is yet scarcely showable, whether, I say, they are quite sure that we are in the most direct road to improvement? or whether it be not just possible that there may be a few stumbling-blocks cumbering the path of floriculture, as a few years back the Old Sarums cumbered the path of the state? To me, nothing in the whole world of flowers appears more delightful than the immense variety of its lovely colours, and nothing more desirable than that they should be infinitely increased.

Venus (Headley).—From the same cross with King James, and from the same pod of seed. Another of those facts to which I have repeatedly adverted as utterly subversive of the foolish notion propagated a few years ago, by then supposed authorities, that only the same class could be produced "good" from any given parent; and as if to confound confusion, Mr Headley remarks, when kindly sending me the information, "I had only one pod of seed, and from it raised fine flowers of nearly every class of *carnations* as well as picotees." If these flowers could not sport, indeed, I should like to know how the present classes originated; and if our present colours have been vouchsafed to us, may we not hope for as great addition to the shades now in existence? What is to hinder the realization of buffs, yellows of every shade from bright lemon to dense golden hues, orange, fawns, pinks, roses, scarlets, crimsons, chocolate, lilacs, and purples, puce, and plum, and peach? and will any one venture to say that our exhibitions, with such variety, would be less delightful than at present? But to return (as I so constantly need) from my digression. Venus is truly a flower of flowers; beautiful amongst the most beautiful. Not of large size, but of rarest form; petals broad, very solid, and smooth; white first-rate; and the colour, a solid medium band of the richest orange rose. It is a strong grower, should have generous treatment, and not be allowed to carry more than two blooms to a plant—sometimes only one,—and though this is apparently opposed to a prior remark of mine, it well deserves the attention I recommend, *for there is nothing in the class*

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to touch it in its own style. When there are half-a-dozen like it which will give two and three blooms, in place of one or two, I shall discard Venus, but till then I am her humble servant and admirer.

Victoria Regina (Marris).—Last upon my list, and greatest. Unlike Venus, which is oriental in its beauty, we have in Victoria Regina a flower symbolizing a fair daughter of England, well and worthily named after our England's queen. Not so deep a flower as Venus, but of exquisite purity; the petal admirably formed; white without the slightest spot, rich and translucent; and marginal colour broad, bright, and regularity itself. Mr. Turner, in his catalogue, describes the colour as "scarlet, very bright," I think it a bright, light, rich rose. Though so different in colour, for it is a seedling from Field Marshal and Princess Alice, heavy purples, and from the same pod of seed with Prince of Wales and Prince Albert, the characteristics of its parents are plainly to be recognized in the flower, and wherever it is seen in good condition, I am satisfied it will excite the warmest admiration. The plants sent to me are fine and doing well; stronger than I had ever previously seen it; but it will require much care from the cultivator, and is very shy of increase, as will be supposed, when it was first bloomed in 1847, and only sent out last autumn.

A few remarks in conclusion may, perhaps, not unfitly be devoted to two questions connected with these flowers, viz. First, has their progress towards perfection, during the past few years, been such as should satisfy those delighting in their development? and secondly, is the practice of "dressing" the flower, which has for a great number of years universally obtained amongst its cultivators, such as can be justified by sound reasoning and analogous practice, or should it be discontinued? The latter has been recently the subject of discussion in the *Florist* (a work with which, doubtless, the greater part of the readers of the "*Midland*" are familiar, *and all should be),* and is one which should be well established or promptly rejected, as it has been, probably, the subject of wonderment and much curious questioning in the minds of many admirers of these flowers; and the former is certainly not uninteresting as it affects the position, the perseverance, and intelligence of a considerable body of Flora's devotees, as compared

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with that of those devoting themselves to other flowers in her domain.

Commencing with the first question, there has probably been an almost universal feeling amongst the cultivators of the carnation, that its progress has been slow, and I must confess, that until led to a different conclusion by the references necessary in the composition of the foregoing list, I shared fully in the opinion. Toiling steadily on in a long journey, we scarcely note our progress, and become fully aware of it only as we observe the distant landmarks sinking one after the other beneath the horizon. So with us. Surrounded with flowers which, considering what they were in nature, are a wonderful instance of God's goodness, in giving to us productions so susceptible of improvement, we have paid little heed to the past, in the engrossing thought of the present, or hope for the future. Therefore the advance realized has been insufficiently estimated. Whatever are the merits or defects of the list now completed,—and I am very sensible of its shortcomings,—on one point I venture to speak confidently,—it omits no variety with the slightest claim to a leading position, introduced prior to 1848, or any variety which has been so largely distributed as to be in *general* cultivation, or which could *now* be exhibited with signal success. Any omissions of deserving varieties which may have arisen from my ignorance, or from their being at present confined to some particular locality, may be left unconsidered, as they would only further exemplify the position I assume. Turning, then, to the best authorities of a few years since, I find Mr. Glenny, in the *Horticultural Magazine*, for 1845, at the close of a dissertation on the management of the carnation and picotee, their properties, &c., gives a list of "varieties recommended, selected as the best show flowers, which in their way had made as large an advance towards the standard as could be boasted in that day." This list comprised seventy-four varieties of carnations and thirty-eight of picotees, and of

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these I have enumerated twenty-five varieties of carnations, *several of those not being recommended*, and four of picotees. Still more recently, in the first volume of the *Florist* (for 1848, page 45), is a list of fifty first-rate carnations and fifty first-rate picotees, compiled by Mr. Edwards, from returns obtained from Messrs. Keynes, Holland, Ward, Willmer, Norman, and C. Turner, the principal gentlemen at that time engaged in their cultivation for sale. These lists embrace in the aggregate, from the varying returns, one hundred and thirty-four varieties of carnations and one hundred and twenty-three varieties of picotees, and of these, the list given by myself contains forty-three varieties of carnations and fifteen of picotees, a result I believe which must have a more substantial solution than can be supplied from any allowances necessary to be made for the varying taste of cultivators (to which, of course, this list is subject); the seeking after novelty which belongs to the florist; or to the depreciation natural to the flower from age;—and that solution I believe to be in the advance obtained. Carrying an analysis into detail, we have ample evidence on which to found a belief that we have at this moment varieties possessing greater refinement, richer colours, increased substance, and more symmetrical forms than existed fifteen, ten, or even five years since, the purple flake class being the only exception; and this exception must be referred to the greater excellence developed at an earlier date in this class, when compared with the others; excellence however, which I trust will not merely be emulated, but surpassed by florists of the present day. As a whole, I think there is abundant room for congratulation, and the success of the past should form the strongest incitement toward a still greater excellence in the future. In picotees, the rapid development is not merely satisfactory,—it is completely surprising. Not only have seven-eighths of the varieties held first-rate in 1848 been left behind in the march toward perfection, but the

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varieties comprising the solitary eighth part retained, have been, with two exceptions only, Mrs. Barnard and Venus, the latter being a variety of 1847, completely distanced in their several styles of excellence, and that not by one or two degrees only, but by many. It may seem curious, and worthy a moment's consideration, to note how such a result has been attained in the case of a flower, which, as compared with the carnation, was only as yesterday subject to the care and skill of the cultivator.* Some part of this result must doubtless be attributed to the greater vigour which belongs to its younger life, some to its almost entire freedom from the sportiveness which belongs to almost every variety of the carnation, but infinitely the larger part belongs to the fact that its culture has been undertaken by gentlemen of education and intelligence, well acquainted with its structural character, and prompt to use means necessary to its reproduction. And the very fact that such an eminent development toward perfection has attended efforts made originally (and comparatively so recently) from a much inferior starting point, should suggest to those cultivators of the carnation who have hitherto left their chance of obtaining seed to accidental causes, that the most diligent care is necessary in the fertilizing of the best varieties, and that only by a perseverance in such a course can any advantage rationally be hoped for. On the second question proposed for our consideration, the dressing of the flower practised by its cultivators, it has been urged that the system is pernicious, reprehensible, and dishonest, as establishing a *deceptive* difference between the flower as grown, and the flower as shown. It is important therefore to determine whether a *deceptive* difference in the flower is or is not created by "dressing." In ordinary cases it is expected from those who impugn

* I am aware the picotee was more regarded by the very early florists, but the carnation gradually superseded it, and it was almost lost sight of, until brought into notice by cultivators of very recent times. Now, there can be little question it is much the more popular flower, and it deserves its popularity, for its great excellence and variety.

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the propriety of any system, or part of a system, that they support their assumption either by a detail of incontestable circumstances, or by a course of irrefragable argument. It is our misfortune, in common with that of others whose proceedings may have been questioned by those only very slightly informed on the subjects criticised, that our opponents disdain to enter into a detail of circumstances, or a course of logical argument affecting the principle, and content themselves with the ladies' reason, viz. that the matter is so, because—*it is*. Reversing the rule of court, we are called upon to prove our innocence. And we can do this. We say there is no *deceptive* difference created in the flower by "dressing," nor can the most skilful manipulation make that good which in itself is radically bad. We say there is no dishonesty, for there is neither coverture in its practice,—it is openly performed, openly acknowledged, and openly taught—nor advantage obtained by it other than as the greater beauty developed in the flower delights more largely ourselves and others. We say that it is not pernicious, because, during the time the practice has been known, an advance, in its ratio immensely beyond any formerly obtained, has been realized in all that constitutes beauty in the flower, as stoutness of petal, smoothness, fine texture, richness and regularity of colouring and harmonious distribution; and it is not reprehensible, because the result is the development of greater symmetry, and contrast, and variety,—symmetry, contrast, and variety *inherent* in the flower, be it remembered—eliciting increased delight and a larger measure of approbation. The issue thus raised must be tried on its merits, and before proceeding to state the grounds on which we hold "dressing" to be advantageous, justifiable, and commendable, let us for a moment examine the nature and strength of our opponents' position. Our friends say, "we know nothing of the flower dressed;" "we think the practice pernicious and reprehensible—we think it establishes a deceptive difference—and there-

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fore we say it is, and does." Would this hold in other cases? Thus,—A. B. seeing a horse well fed, well groomed, and closely clipt, is struck with admiration at his beauty, and becomes a purchaser. In the order of nature, the closely clipt coat becomes rough, and A. B. refusing to repeat the operation, complains that he has been injured by a practice "pernicious, reprehensible, and dishonest." Or again, C. D., an admirer of fine linen, purchases a quantity remarkable for its "finish." As a necessary means to making it up, the linen is washed, and the finish destroyed. Refusing to submit it to a repetition of the process of finishing, which he regards as reprehensible, he complains that he has suffered from a dishonest trickery, which hid all kinds of deformity in the stuff he bought. Would complaints such as these be held to be well founded? Would they excite other than a smile of pity? Illustration might indeed be heaped upon illustration, every object in our exhibitions, every act and every art in our gardens,—all the arts of life and civilization itself,—might be questioned, were ignorance valid criticism,—even the questioners themselves might be questioned, and in the trim of their whiskers and the tie of their cravats, a *deceptive* difference might be presumed, and the *trickery* of dressing asserted.

I come now to the reasons why "dressing" is advantageous, justifiable, and commendable. Because, first, it familiarizes the eye with a model more nearly approaching to that exact perfection which science delineates; and just as it increases the beauty of the flower, it educates our taste, and gives to us a readier ability to detect the ills requiring to be remedied;—because it cannot be a reproach "to feel the beauties God has created for our pleasure, and to draw them forth from the obscurity in which he has hidden them;"—and because, by such an "exercise of our intelligence" we more widely diffuse admiration, and excite deeper and more enlarged emotions of delight. Nor need any fear that art may be

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allowed to assist nature *without limit*;—the floristic canon is plain enough and pertinent. "There must be *nothing* extraneous introduced into the flower, neither petal nor pellet, nor any such thing." Deformity may be removed, (as with a misplaced tooth, a cross in the eye, or other deformity in a child,) but whatever additional contrast, harmony, variety, or grace the art of the dresser may confer, "it must be *inherent*, and of the flower."

E. S. DODWELL.

Derby.

WINTER BEDDING PLANTS.

THE present system of grouping plants during the summer months, often causes our gardens to look very bare in winter and early spring; and when are flowers so welcome as on the first dawn of spring? Does not our first snowdrop and crocus receive as much admiration as our finest collections of beautiful flowers at a more advanced period of the year? Do they not tell us of approaching spring, and cheer our hearts with the anticipation of more beautiful blossoms? Do they not remind us of our past cares and pleasures, and of our future hopes? And besides, it is everyone's wish to make a garden a source of pleasure at all times, and in all seasons. To effect which, I think a great number of plants hereafter mentioned will much assist us. I am well aware, from experience, that there are many plants that will not bear so much shifting about, while others are greatly benefited by being frequently divided, or young plants being kept up by propagation; but for such plants as will not bear shifting, I find it answer well to keep them in pots, to plunge in the beds during winter, and remove them to the reserve garden in summer. It will be seen that the greater part of the plants are the most common and inexpensive kinds we have, so that there is nothing to fear on

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that head; the only care being to have a sufficient quantity of the different kinds.

To begin with bulbs, the snowdrop stands first. We do not see this so often or in such quantities as in days gone by, which I think arises from the ground being so often stirred. I plant them round the beds, about three or four inches from the outside, so that when the beds are dug, they are carefully left, by which means I find them to grow and bloom in abundance. Crocusses I manage in the same way, and it answers admirably too, for in February and March, my beds have a most charming appearance, from the varied colours of blue, yellow, and white. Hyacinths are beautiful objects, when first imported, but too expensive for bedding, though a good bed may be made with bulbs that have been bloomed in the greenhouse the previous spring. Duc Van Thol, and Tournasol tulips, all make fine beds, but the late varieties do not answer so well, as the bulbs have not time to ripen by the period the beds are wanted; but to obviate this, I grow those that have been in the beds the previous spring, in the kitchen garden, and bring a fresh supply of good bulbs from the kitchen garden to fill their places. Narcissus bulbocodium is also a fine plant for a bed: the flowers are of a beautiful orange colour, very similar to a crocus. We do not see this plant so often as it deserves to be seen. Bulbocodium vernum makes a pretty bed, but the flowers are a little too small. Then there is the dog's tooth violet, with its handsome foliage adding to its beauty.

Amongst hardy plants, the double daisy (Bellis perennis) is a great favourite with me; it bears dividing well, and keeps in bloom a long time, and now consists of a great number of handsome varieties. Next to these the wallflower (Cheiranthus cheiri) is a most valuable plant. The single ones may be raised from seed sown in May. I believe they are capable of great improvement, if the attention of the florist was bestowed upon them. There are also many fine

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double varieties. I have occasionally had double flowers among my seedlings, and now grow three distinct sorts raised in that way. The double varieties are easily propagated by slips, inserted in a shaded situation. The genus primula contains a great number of fine plants, and as many of them bear propagating and removing well, they are invaluable for this purpose. Amongst them are the polyanthus and primrose, both of which might be greatly improved by adopting this system for the purpose of raising seedlings, and it is doubtless many beautiful and valuable varieties might be raised, that would prove great acquisitions to our flower gardens, though they might not be of any value to the florist. I am of opinion we have a very wide field open in this direction, from my own weak efforts with the primrose and polyanthus, by which I have succeeded in raising some very handsome border flowers. I was lately in the garden of a noble lord, in Northamptonshire, in which I saw two large beds of oxlips: they consisted of several varieties of red and yellow, and had a very pretty effect. There are several sorts of double primroses, which make very pretty beds. The auricula too is a valuable plant for beds; of course I do not mean the fine expensive varieties, but the more common ones will do quite as well for this purpose. When speaking of bulbs, I forgot to mention the anemone, and where do we find more beautiful flowers than these for early spring? The seeds should be sown as soon as ripe, in some spare corner, where they are to remain till autumn, when they may be removed to the beds intended for them.

In addition to the plants named, we must not omit pansies; and where can we boast of more beautiful objects, abounding, as they do, in so many shades of colour, and continuing such a length of time in bloom? I find them do much better by being removed every autumn. There is only one objection to them, and that is, they are frequently obliged to be removed while they are still in their beauty; very

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often has it gone to my heart to have to pull up plants which were still loaded with their lovely blossoms. They may be grown either in beds of separate colours, or mixed; or a few beds of seedlings would be very attractive, and add much to their interest, in observing the different colours, and selecting varieties. Amongst other plants, there are Aubretia grandiflora and Aubretia purpurea, both fine things, and keeping a length of time in bloom; also Aralis alpinus and Aralis alpinus variegatus, both white, are very handsome for either beds or rockwork. Draba azoides, yellow, is very pretty (but requires a peaty soil), as is also Sisyrinchum anceps, purple. The hepaticas too are most beautiful things, but should be kept in pots, as they will not bear removing. Phlox divaricata and Phlox divaricata alba are both pretty, but should also be kept in pots.

In addition to the above, there are several fine annuals, such as the nemophillas and Collinsias, which might be sown and pricked out in autumn.

Where there are large beds to be filled, it is an excellent plan to keep some of the handsomest shrubs in pots, to be plunged during winter. These may consist of Deodars, araucarias, arborvitæs, double furze or gorse, and suchlike plants, all of which will add to the beauty and interest of the garden, during the dull and cheerless winter, as well as in summer.

W. S. M. M.

PURITY IN THE TULIP.

BY J. SLATER, FLORIST, CHEETHAM-HILL, NEAR MANCHESTER.

A GREAT outcry has been made for some time about purity being *indispensable* in the tulip, whilst at every national meeting, notwithstanding that the regulations state that purity is indispensable, blooms are allowed to win that are strictly impure. If the regulations are to be evaded, or qualified, then those

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who stage for purity are not put upon the same footing as those who make allowance for the discretion of the judges, who often are partial to certain varieties. Why state in the regulations that purity is indispensable, whilst Platoff, *alias* Royal Sovereign, is allowed to win, when it is notorious that it is not pure, being cloudy, or shaded with a yellow rather of a dusky colour. There are also a very large number of the Chellaston seedlings a very impure white at the base, and yet they pass the judges. Something definite must be laid down and *acted upon*, or else we shall all be in a state of confusion. Blooms with impure stamens are cast out, whilst the cloudy bottoms remain in the stands; and it is a fact, that is now allowed by all who have paid any attention, that the tinge upon the top of the stamens arises principally from natural causes, whilst some *open* discoloured. About the third day, the pollen becomes semifluid, and flows down upon the stamens, and what is remarkable, only tinges the inside, whilst the outside part of the stamens is as pure as possible. Again, I have seen, this season, repeated instances of one or more stamens tinged in the same flower, and the remainder perfectly pure. Some varieties do not so readily tinge as others, and these will be found, upon examination, to have scarcely any pollen, and do not seed; whilst the flowers which have the greatest quantity of pollen on the anthers, seed readily. I am of opinion that of two evils I would prefer tinged stamens, arising from the causes related, to a cloudy base; and if it were distinctly stated in the regulations for judging, that such allowances would be made, subject to being brought against other properties, so that it should not rank so high, whilst the one that is very impure on the stamens, arising from constitutional causes, should be disqualified. This, by a practical judge, would be very easily ascertained, as it would show it on every side, whilst from the other cause, the greatest discolouration will be on that side nearest the pericarpium.

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Part II.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

TULIPS.—R. M.—*Howard.*—A well-topped bizarre breeder, from Polyphemus, crossed with Optimus. Stout petal, good form, base like its parent.

Kirke White.—Extra fine bizarre breeder. Base pure, as well as the stamens.

Standard.—Bizarre breeder. Large size, pure, and splendid. The petals of this flower are of immense substance.

Romulus—Also from Polyphemus, crossed with Optimus. Clean and fine.

Raphael.—From same cross. Dark bizarre breeder, with a fine large yellow base.

Phineas.—Bizarre, breaking in promising style.

Model.—A lively red bizarre breeder. Extra fine form, pure. Also from the same cross as the preceding.

Duke of Rutland.—A dusky bronze breeder. Pure, but not of so good form as the preceding.

Diana.—Feathered rose, from Triomphe Royale, crossed with Bienfait. Very pretty and clean. Favours the first-mentioned variety.

Wilberforce.—A stout well-formed dark bizarre breeder, very pure, with lemon base.

Poccahontas.—Seedling from Captain White, crossed with Polyphemus. A deep plated feathered byblœmen. A very promising flower.

B.—*Paul Pry.*—A very dark flame, with black feather. From the petals sent, we should say very promising.

Gigas.—Heavy plated bizarre, with brown feather. Pure.

J. S.—*Adonis.*—A very fine feathered bizarre, a cross from Polyphemus and San Joe. Fourth-row flower.

Earl of Richmond.—A small flower (as sent), with a decidedly neat brown feather. A very promising bizarre.

J. B.—*Warden.*—Feathered bizarre. Firt-rate in form, purity, and marking.

Sobraon.—Black feathered bizarre. Petals rather narrow, but very pretty.

Herald.—In the way of Sovereign. Black feather. Good.

No. 4.—Feathered rose. Beautifully marked and pure, but unfortunately too long.

Regulator.—Black feathered bizarre. Fine.

Gem.—Feathered rose. Very pretty.

S. B.—*Rosy Gem.*—A neat nicely feathered rose tulip. As sent, rather creamy, being a young flower, when bleached, it will be very desirable.

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Rosy Queen.—In same style. The feather, however, rather heavier, but perfectly pure. An acquisition to this scarce class.

Louis XVI.—A splendid feather, and pure.

Guido.—A well-marked feathered byblœmen, shoulders a good deal, a stout and bold flower.

The blooms of Orleans feathered and Orleans flamed, settles the matter. We will refer to it again.

I. L.—*Lady Bath.*—Heavy feathered rose tulip. A promising flower.

W. W.—Your byblœmen breeder, *Queen*, is very fine, and the petal of the rectified flower is an excellent feather.

S. Y.—*Arlette.*—Yours is a very nice break, well feathered, and pure.

R. B.—The *Queen*, seedling rose tulip. A pure and delicately marked feathered rose, of good form. A desirable flower.

PANSIES.—J. A.—*Yellow Gem.*—A brilliant orange, with intense dark centre. One of the best seedlings of its colour that we have seen this season.

Model of Perfection.—A flat and round flower, cream ground, the upper and lower petals belted with lavender, the eye large and attractive. Both very nice flowers.

SEEDLING PANSIES.—A CONSTANT READER.—*Tom Flint.*—Very moderate.

Mr. Henderson.—Yellow ground, fine eye, purple marone upper petals and belting. A nice flower, but very similar to some others already out.

Squire Dunn.—Of fine form. Ground colour rather undecided, and the rays from the eye run into the belting.

Sambo.—A fine dark self, with purple ray round the eye. We should have liked it better without this, nevertheless, it is an attractive sort.

Davie Deans.—This we like best, there is something bold and novel about it. It is large, bright yellow, with a narrow band of purple round the upper and lower petals. The eye is fine and attractive.

North Star.—Evidently out of condition. A large purple-belted flower, in the way of Climax. There looks a good flower in it.

Newcastle.—A clear flower, but the yellow field or ground colour too small in proportion to the belting.

C. S.—*Berwickshire* (pansy).—Of good average form, but sadly deficient in the centre. Try again.

W. S., jun.—Yellow-belted seedling pansy, of medium quality. Not good enough for first rank.

FUCHSIAS.—W.—Neither of your two seedlings are any improvement. No. 1 is inferior to Voltigeur. No. 2 is not so good as Dr. Jepson. We are sorry to disappoint you, but we are obliged to give this opinion.

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DELPHINIUMS.—J. M.—Your seedling delphiniums are varieties of D. elatum. Tall-growing, and though varying slightly in colour, not of sufficient novelty to sell out. We are afraid that some of the new flowers of this class, lately let out, have not realized the expectations formed of them.

AURICULAS.—R. W. R.—*No.* 11.—Grey-edge, tube small, petal well rounded, the paste excellent, ground colour nearly black. A finely-formed flower.

Waverley.—An intense dark green-edged auricula, the paste circular and dense, with a rather narrow well-defined circle of black. The corolla was divided into eight segments, giving the pip a crowded appearance, a fault, if permanent.

Lady Jane.—Grass green edge, tube pale, ground colour dark. All three are promising flowers. We like the two first best.

CALCEOLARIAS.—I. W.—Yours are a good style of flowers, but possess too much sameness. Seedlings with yellow grounds and dark markings are in overwhelming profusion. Try your hand at cross-breeding, with some other colours. Novelty of this description is highly desirable.

P.—Almost the same advice may be given to you. There is one, however, among the collection, named *Advance*, cream, with rich crimson markings, that is very promising. It is rather too flat for a first-rate flower, but seed it by all means.

M.—*Pasha.*—A fine and distinct variety. Cream or buff ground, with bold and singular markings of dark chocolate. Propagate it by all means.

E. D.—A splendid broccoli indeed. It was too late for the show, but we took care that it was seen by some of the best gardeners in this neighbourhood.

THE NOTTINGHAM CUP FOR TWELVE DISSIMILAR TULIP BLOOMS.

SIR,—I really think that Mr. Allestree had no right to the cup, though, in truth, the judges made a bungling mess of it. Where could their eyes have been? How was it you were not there?* Now let me ask, did they judge according to the present advanced opinions on this splendid flower? and were not there several as glaring mistakes in the classes as in the stands? But of this enough. My object in now writing is to give a lawyer's opinion on the matter. When I reached home, I laid the case before an old friend of mine, "learned in law," and his decided opinion was, that Mr. Marsden was entitled to

* Because, had our flowers been ready, we intended to have exhibited them.—ED.

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the cup. He illustrated his position thus. Three horses start for a race, the favourite outstrips the others, and passes the judge's chair first, the crowd cheer, and it is supposed that the grey has won. So far so good. On going to scale, it is discovered that he is shortweight; he ought to have been 8st. 6lb., but by sad oversight or neglect, or loss of whip, or cap, or some such untoward event, he only weighs 8st. 5lb. The judge, though convinced when he passed the chair, that the grey had won, now disqualifies him, because he had not carried the proper weight; in fact, "he had not complied with the conditions." Mortified he was and would be, but the second horse gains the prize. Now I thought my old friend was up to something in the floral line, and knew a little about tulip schedules.

I am, Mr. Editor, yours sincerely,

A NORTH COUNTRYMAN.

Part III.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

I have a quantity of seedling tulips blooming for the first time this year. In some, I observe a distinct stripe of breeder colour, of a lighter shade, down the centre of the petal. Will some of our seedling raisers inform me if it is any indication of the style of breaking? It is not a distinctive mark with all breeders, but is only visible in a portion of them. I have also perceived a darker shade of breeder colour round the edge of the petal; but this is only apparent in some, and does not appear to be equally distinct in unbroken flowers.

INQUIRER.

Your correspondent, L. W., asks why leaves are preferable to stable litter, for making hotbeds, in answer to which, I beg to state, that stable litter undergoes fermentation much faster than leaves; consequently, it is very apt to burn, or become too hot for a time, and then too soon becomes cold; while hotbeds made of about one-half of each, mixed together, ferment much slower, and consequently keep up a more constant regular heat for a much greater length of time. L. W. will find the best way to preserve his leaves is to keep them dry. He would also find them very useful at the present time, for making hotbeds for such things as cucumbers and melons, and other things that require bottom heat, as they do not now require to be kept so hot as in the winter months.

W. S. M. M.

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MY GARDEN.

No. VII.

As dahlias progress, they will require to be well tied out and pruned, according to their habit. That the readers of the *Midland Florist* may know the treatment the several varieties require, I give with this paper some notes of the plan I pursue. I dare say many old growers will smile at them; but as I write solely for young florists, I trust I shall be excused what to many doubtless will seem very prosy details. In this list will be found the names of most of the best flowers, save those sent out this year. Fancies I shall probably mention next month; in the meanwhile, I would only remark, that they must not be grown so strong as the other varieties, and that all would be benefited by a syringing every evening.

Andromeda (Collinson).—Four to five feet. Buff, tipped and veined with pink. Must be got in early, and encouraged to make free growth. It should not be disbudded till late, when the malformed blooms, of which there are sometimes a good many, can be easily distinguished. Takes a long while blooming, and though too long in the petal, must be considered a useful show flower.

Annie Salter.—Three to four feet. Delicate pale peach lilac. One of the very best flowers out; and as I was not fortunate enough to possess it last year, can only recommend my readers to do as I shall—watch it very carefully, and act according to its habit; it will repay the best attention.

Barmaid (Holmes).—Three feet. White, usually slightly tipped with lavender. Full size, and requires free, without a strong growth. Opens slowly.

Dr Frampton (Rawlings).—Three to four feet. Much better shape than Princess Radziville, but came far too small last year to be of any use for exhibition. Must be grown very strong, and if it can be got large enough, will be a very useful flower.

Duke of Wellington (Drummond).—Three to four feet. Orange scarlet. A full-sized flower, with fine petal and outline. May be grown in rich soil, but must not be disbudded hard in the early part of the season. A first-rate variety for exhibition, when the centre is good, and then few flowers surpass it.

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Edward Foster (Turner).—Three feet. Dull red. Petal and outline very good, and a flower of average size. Must be grown well and quick, with abundance of moisture. Rather long in opening.

Essex Triumph (Turville).—Four feet. Dark marone, in its best state shaded with crimson. Though rather open in the petal, there is no flower out that I know of can equal it in colour, and it must still be grown. Must not be disbudded too sharp when young.

Fearless (Barnes).—Five feet. Lilac. A full-sized flower, of fine shape. It is of peculiar and upright habit, and very few shoots will require removing. Should be grown in stiff soil.

General Faucher (Rose).—Five feet. Rosy carmine and bronze. A large and constant flower, that may always be depended on; and is of good, but not first-rate shape. It requires average growth and disbudding, and is of very good habit.

George Glenny (Barnes).—Three feet. Yellow. Moderate colour, and if grown strong, becomes coarse. As most of our yellows are very uncertain, a plant of this may be grown; it may come in useful for "long numbers."

George Villiers (Union).—Three feet. Dark purple. Stout petal, and of good full outline. Must be grown strong, and thinned closely, or it will be too small. Early in the season will be found a great acquisition.

Hon. Mr. Herbert (Dodds).—Yellow and red. A large flower of good outline, and tolerably constant. May receive plenty of moisture, but must not be disbudded very closely.

John Edwards (Salter).—Seven feet. Bright scarlet. Must be grown in a moist and cool place, with plenty of manure and water; but thinned moderately. When "well done," a very striking flower.

Leda (Fellowes).—Three to four feet. Buff. A good second-class flower, large, and only useful for "long numbers."

Lizzy (Perry).—Three to four feet. White, tipped with purple. Very good shape, fine when caught; but though sent out as very constant, was quite the contrary last season. Must be thinned and disbudded closely. I think if grown in rich loam, it will be very useful in the early part of the season.

Malvina (Howard).—Three feet. White, mottled with purple; but the colours are too much confused. Must be grown with plenty of moisture, and with fully average thinning. Early in the season the centre is hard, but late this fault disappears, and the flower is very useful.

Miss Spears (Lamont).—Four feet. Shaded crimson. Very good shape, but rather small. Should be got well on, grown very freely, and thinned and disbudded closely.

Model (Fellowes).—Five feet. Bronze brown. Few flowers look so unpromising as this when the outside petals begin to expand, but when fully open, a very useful show flower, if "well done." Must be thinned hard, and grown strong.

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Morning Star (Turner).—Five feet. Bright orange scarlet. A little too open in the petal, and best late in the season. Should be grown in stiff soil, and not watered very freely.

Mrs. Seldon (Turner).—Four to five feet. Bright yellow. Get well on, and do not disbud till the character of the buds can be seen, when all malformed ones may be removed. Must be grown well and strong. Rather uncertain, but perhaps the best yellow yet out.

Mr. Seldon (Turner).—Three feet. Rosy lilac. A large and fine flower that may always be depended on, but must not be grown too strong.

Princess Radziville (Gaines).—Three feet. White and purple. A medium-sized flower, of good outline, but second-rate petal. May be grown freely, but not disbudded very closely.

Queen of Beauties (Mitchell).—Three to four feet. White, tipped with lake. Must be got well on, and then disbudded the same as Mrs. Seldon and Andromeda, when a fair amount of blooms may be had, of good quality. It is a very beautiful wax-like flower when in good condition, but the petals rather pointed. It should be bloomed under a pot, but not shaded very young. It takes a long while to open.

Queen of Whites (Drummond).—Two feet. Pure white. Rather pointed petals, but a flower of good depth and substance. Very constant, and always to be depended on, by which I mean that a promising bloom will always open well, unlike flowers of the Duke of Wellington class, in which the centre, though promising one day, may be open the next; and are also made utterly useless by a few extra miles in a railway-van. Queen of Whites must not be thinned, or disbudded very hard.

Queen of Lilacs (Turner).—Four feet. Peach lilac. A fine-formed deep flower, that must not be thinned very sharp, or it will be liable to come coarse. May be grown in a moist place.

Richard Cobden (Stein).—Four feet. Dark shaded purple. A fine-shaped full-sized flower. It should receive an average thinning, and be grown in a stiff soil.

Scarlet King (Green.)—Three feet. A tolerable outline, but rather too flat. Must not be disbudded hard, or will be coarse. The centre seems rather treacherous, and last season, Scarlet King was not, with me, anything like so good as I expected to have seen it.

Seraph (Fellowes).—Three feet. Orange buff. A full-sized useful flower. May be grown well, but must not be disbudded very hard.

Sir C. Napier (Hale).—Two feet. Rich and deep scarlet. A first-rate and tolerably constant flower, of fine outline and petal. It may be thinned and disbudded closely; indeed, I have never seen it grown too close.

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Shylock (Collinson).—Two to three feet. Scarlet. A favourite flower, of several years' standing, and still useful, being of a fine bright colour. Must be thinned and disbudded hard. It blooms best from a pot root, or division, rather than from cuttings.

Sir F. Bathurst (Keynes).—Two to three feet. Crimson. A very fine and constant flower, of first-rate properties. It is so free a bloomer, that a plant seems soon to wear itself out, and a succession of plants should therefore be put in. Opens quickly, may be grown strong, and disbudded freely, but not have too much moisture.

Sir F. Thesiger (Rawlings).—Four to five feet. Rosy lilac. A constant flower, of good properties, but rather small. Must be grown strong, and disbudded sharply. It should be got well on, as the best blooms are late.

Sir R. Whittington (Drummond).—Four feet. Ruby crimson. Perhaps the best and most constant dahlia out; at all events it is a noble flower, of first-rate petal and outline. May be grown strong, and disbudded very sharp, without being coarse. It may always be depended on, if good plants are started with.

Sir R. Peel (Drummond).—Four to five feet. Scarlet lake, with small bronze tip. When in good condition, no flower in its class surpasses it; but, alas! it is so uncertain, that many growers will not have room or patience to cultivate it. From small plants good blooms will never be got, but with good plants it will yield some specimens. It may be grown strong and disbudded close, for it will not easily lose its exquisite "refinement."

Thames Bank Hero (Robinson).—Four feet. Crimson. Large. Nearly all the blooms must be left, or it will be much too coarse. A plant of it in a large collection is not amiss, if stands of twenty-four have to be made up, for it *may* be wanted, but it is about the worst I have described.

Tom (Drummond).—In its best state, an average-shaped flower, but liable to quill. Should be planted early and grown quickly, but not too strong.

Triumphant (Keynes).—Five feet. Crimson, occasionally tipped with white. A flower of full size and good outline. As a fancy, which it occasionally comes, very useful. Should be grown strong, but not disbudded very hard. The blooms are thrown well above the foliage, and it is a plant of fine habit.

Yellow Standard (Keynes).—Three feet. Clear yellow. Difficult to get in good order, as it blooms very low in the foliage, and the back petals are apt to drop. The blooms should not be cut long before the show. May be grown strong.

As pinks root, they should be transplanted to their beds, and set about four inches apart, that they may

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be ready for planting out permanently, in September. Hollyhocks will be much benefited by an increased supply of water; indeed they cannot well receive too much. Cuttings may be put in at any time during the month, and struck in a cold frame. Tulips, if not already taken up, should be forthwith attended to, and dried in a cool place, free from the sun's rays. Carnations and picotees will be in full bloom at the end of the month, and the task of layering should then be proceeded with. If any shoots are too high up the stem to be layered, they should be piped at once. As I have occupied so much space already, I will only add, that pelargoniums should be cut down as the wood ripens, and the plants kept close for a few days, that they may break freely.

J. J. C.

June 17th, 1853.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

ROYAL SOUTH LONDON FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY, April 26.

This, the first meeting for the season, took place at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, and was the best April show the Society has had for some years. Cinerarias, auriculas, azaleas, and pansies were in excellent condition, and attracted particular attention. The following were the awards:—

CINERARIAS.—Nurserymen: 1st. Mr. C. Turner, Slough, with admirably managed plants, dwarf and bushy, of Nonsuch, Kate Kearney, Amy Robsart, Rosalind, Climax, Formosa, Queen of Beauties, Charles Dickens. 2nd. Mr. Ivery, of Peckham, with Surprise, Rosalind, Teddington, Rosy Morn, Queen of Beauty, Prima Donna, Star of Peckham, Cerito. 3rd. Mr. Fairbairn.

PANSIES.—Nurserymen: 1st. Mr. C. Turner, with fine blooms of Royal Sovereign, Ophir, Mrs. Hamilton, Flower of the Day, Miss Talbot, Lady Emily, Great Western, Duke of Perth, Robert Burns, Marchioness of Bath, Alfred the Great, Marian, Royal Visit, Thisbe, Euphemia, Pandora, Sir R. Peel, Sir J. Paxton, Sir J. Cathcart, National, Mr. Beck, France Cycole, Pompey, Duke of Norfolk. 2nd. Mr. Bragg, Slough, with Sir R. Peel, Ophir, Lady Carrington, Duke of Perth, Viola, Ostrich, Elegant, Criterion, Elegantissima, Marchioness of Bath, Wonderful, Queen of England, Sultan, Cæsar, Helen, Lucidum, Ibrahim Pasha, Sir J. Cathcart, Mr. Pennet, Euphemia, Pompey, Royal White, Pandora, Almanzor. 3rd. Mr. Dobson, Isleworth.

AURICULAS.—Six Plants, Nurserymen: 1st. Mr. Turner, with Taylor's Glory, Dickson's Matilda, General Bolivar, Page's Champion, Beeston's Fair Flora, Ne plus ultra. Best Pair, Amateurs: 1st. Mr. Miller, gardener to R. Moseley, Esq. for Lovely Ann and Taylor's Glory.

POLYANTHUSES.—1st. Mr. Turner, for George IV., Lord Rancliffe, Admirable, and Cheshire Favourite.

MISCELLANEOUS PLANTS.—1st. Mr. Roser, Streatham. 2nd. Mr. Over, Clapham. 3rd. Mr. Hamp. The leading plants consisted of Hovea celsi, Eriostemon myoporoides (finely grown and flowered), Epacris miniata, Erica syndriana (admirable specimen, of immense size), and a good Cavendishii.

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SPECIMEN PLANTS.—1st. Erica mutabilis, shown by Messrs. Fairbairn. 2nd. celsi, shown by Mr. Mockit. A fine plant of Dielytra spectabilis was shown by Mr. Roser, of Streatham.

An extra prize for the best auricula was awarded to Mr. Turner, for a finely grown plant of Taylor's Glory. Mr. Turner also obtained the 1st prize for the best plant of Page's Champion. The prize for the best cineraria was awarded to a dwarf well-bloomed plant of Henderson's Rosalind, exhibited by Mr. Turner. For the best pair of azaleas: 1st. Mr. Roser, for Duke of Devonshire and Smithii. 2d. Mr. Over, for Aurora and Duke of Devonshire. 3rd. Mr. Hamp, for Rosea elegans and Formosa.

SEEDLINGS.—Cinerarias: Certificates were given to the following varieties, which are of exceedingly good shape.—National, exhibited by Mr. G. Smith; Emily, exhibited by Mr. Ivery, Peckham, an improvement on Mrs. Sidney Herbert; South London (Bousie), shown by Mr. Turner, white, delicately tipped with rosy purple, fine shape; Lady Camoys (Sutton & Son, Reading), better than Effie Deans. Pansies: Monarch, the finest in the Duke of Norfolk class, twelve blooms of which were exhibited by Mr Turner; Mr. Thomson, a yellow ground variety, exhibited by Mr. Bragg. Polyanthus, shown by Mr. Mockitt, which also obtained the first prize as best polyanthus in the room, lacing and ground colour of uniform rich yellow, with deep marone ground.

THE GREAT NATIONAL TULIP EXHIBITION,

At the Corn Exchange, Nottingham, May 25.

CLASS A.—The National Tulip Society's silver cup, of ten guineas, with the following inscription, "Presented to Mr. Joseph Godfrey, for the best twelve dissimilar blooms, at the National Exhibition of Tulips, held in Nottingham, 25th May, 1853," was awarded to Mr. Joseph Godfrey, of Chellaston, Derbyshire, for two feathered and two flamed of each class, namely, Sovereign, Heroine, Queen Charlotte, Captain White, Triomphe Royale, Bagot, Magnum Bonum, Orleans, Count, Pilot, Lord Denman, and Camillus.—The second silver cup, of £8, with a like inscription, was awarded to Mr. Thos. Allestree, of Draycott, Derbyshire, for Lord Milton, Lord Denman, Triomphe Royale, Duke of Devonshire, Gem, Comte de Vergennes, Captain White, David, Aglaia, Sovereign, Salvator Rosa, and Heroine.—The third silver cup, of £6, with a like inscription, was awarded to Mr. Charles Spencer, of Thulston, Derbyshire, for Sovereign, Captain White, Catafalque, Polyphemus, Victoria Regina, Lord Denman, Gem, La Bien Amie, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, and Camillus.

CLASS B.—A silver cup, of £5 value, the gift of S. R. P. Shilton, Esq., with the following inscription, "Presented by S. R. P. Shilton, Esq., honorary secretary, to Wilson Marsden, for the best twelve dissimilar tulips, at the National Exhibition, held in Nottingham, May 25th, 1853," was awarded to Mr. Wilson Marsden, of Derby, for the Duke of Devonshire, Allen's Sarah Ann, Triomphe Royale, Earl Douglas, Lady Jane Grey, Queen of Violets, Lord Denman, Chellaston Seedling, Pilot, Catherine, Bagot, and Polyphemus.—The second prize was awarded to the Rev. Samuel Creswell, for Bacchante, Sphinx, Crown Prince of the Netherlands, Sarah Ann, Polyphemus, Aglaia, Prince of Wales, Captain White, Camillus, Emily, Duke of Devonshire, and Lavinia.—The third prize was awarded to Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nurseries, Slough, for Pilot, Alexander Magnus, Princess Royal, Claudiana, Polyphemus, Magnificent, Captain White, Aglaia, Prince Albert, Heroine, Ving, and Van Amburgh.—The fourth prize was awarded to Mr. Wm. Parkinson, of Derby, for Lord Milton, Camillus, Beauty of the Plain, Lady Camp, Aglaia, Alice Gray, Chellaston Seedling, Lady Stanley, Capt. White, Charbonnier, Triomphe Royale, and Queen Charlotte.

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CLASS C.—A silver cup, of the value of £5, the gift of the Nottingham Horticultural Society, with the following inscription, "Presented by the Nottingham Horticultural Society to Mr. Thomas Houghton for the best six tulips, at the National Exhibition, held in Nottingham, May 25, 1853," was awarded to Mr. Thomas Houghton, of Hempshill, Nottinghamshire, for Royal Sovereign, Captain White, Spencer's First-rate, Princess Royal, Heroine, and Aglaia.—Second prize, to Mr. Robert James Lawrence, of Hampton, Middlesex, for Pilot, Charles the Tenth, Brown's Salvator Rosa, Lawrence's Friend, Clarissima, and Aglaia.—Third prize, to Mr. Richard Clarkson, of Colwick, for Duke, Captain White, Bagot, Violet Wallers, Heroine, and Triomphe Royale.—Fourth prize, to Mr. John Edwards, of Holloway, London, for Royal Sovereign, Pilot, Addison, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Triomphe Royale.—Fifth prize, to Mr. William Roe Lymbery, of Ison Green, for Surpasse Optimus, Strong's Sir Robert Peel, Mrs. Lymbery, Nepaulese Prince, Lavinia, and Aglaia.—Sixth prize, Mr. William Parkinson, of Derby, for San Joe, Captain White, Britannia, Princess Royal, Heroine, and Lady Colville.—Seventh prize, to Mr. William Marsden, of Derby, for Polyphemus, Captain White, Buckley's Beauty, Purple Perfection, Heroine, and Triomphe Royale.—Eighth prize, to Mr. Alfred Towles, for Royal Sovereign, Captain White, Unknown, Queen Charlotte, Midland Beauty, and Rose Aglaia.—Ninth prize, to Mr. John Thorniley, of Heaton Norris, near Manchester, for Charles the Tenth, Captain White, General Barnaveldt, Incomparable le Grand, Comte de Vergennes, and Triomphe Royale.—Tenth prize, to Mr. George Hudson, of Kingston, Nottinghamshire, for Magnum Bonum, Captain White, Bagot, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Triomphe Royale.

CLASS D.—SINGLE SPECIMENS.—*Feathered Bizarre*, Polyphemus, Mr. Thomas Amson, Congleton.—*Flamed Bizarre*, Polyphemus, Mr. John Edwards, Holloway, London.—*Feathered Byblœmen*, Godet Parfait, Mr. Battersby.—*Feathered Rose*, Heroine, Mr. Chas. Turner, Slough.—*Flamed Rose*, Magnificent, Mr. Charles Turner, Slough.

CLASS E.—SINGLE SPECIMENS IN CLASSES.—*Feathered Bizarres.*—1, Sovereign, Mr. Joseph Godfrey; 2, Surpasse Optimus, Mr. William R. Lymbery; 3, Surpasse Catafalque, Mr. J. Clarke; 4, Catafalque, Mr. Thomas Gibson; 5, Magnum Bonum, Mr. John Spencer; 6, Grand Duke, Mr. Richd. Clarkson; 7, Marius, Mr. Wm. Scott; 8, Sphinx, Rev. S. Creswell.—*Flamed Bizarres.*—1, Polyphemus, Mr. John Gibbons; 2, Capt. White, Mr. Alexander Jackson; 3, Garrick, Mr. John Edwards; 4, Pilot, Mr. Charles Turner; 5, Augustus, Mr. Thomas Gibbons; 6, Lord Milton, Mr. Charles Spencer; 7, Charbonnier, Mr. William Parkinson; 8, Truth, Mr. John Gibbons.—*Feathered Byblœmens.*—1, Lord Denman, Mr. Geo. Hudson; 2, Bagot, Mr. Wm. Harpham; 3, Lewold, Mr. John Edwards; 4, Britannia, Mr. Thomas Houghton; 5, Roscius, Mr. John Orchard; 6, Unknown, Mr. John Hedderly; 7, Midland Beauty, Mr. W. Parkinson; 8, Midland Beauty, Mr. Alfred Towle.—*Flamed Bybloemens.*—1, Alexander Magnus, Mr. C. Turner; 2, Lord Denman, Mr. Charles Spencer; 3, Violet Alexander, Mr. Thos. Gibbons; 4, Princess Royal, Mr. Thomas Gibbons; 5, Gibbons's Salvator Rosa, Mr. Joseph Lakin; 6, Queen Charlotte, Mr. Thomas Houghton; 7, Prince of Wales, Mr. John Spencer; 8, Othello, Mr. John Battersby.—*Feathered Roses.*—1, Heroine, Mr. Thomas Gibson; 2, Comte de Vergennes, Mr. David Barber; 3, Nymph, Mr. John Spencer; 4, Aglaia, Mr. Thomas Gibson; 5, Lord Denman, Mr.

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George Hudson; 6, Ponceau tres Blanc, Mr. Charles Turner; 7, Seedling, Mr. John Spencer; 8, Fanny Cerito, Mr. Joseph Dakin. —*Flamed Roses.*—1, Aglaia, Mr. Robert James Lawrence; 2, Camilla, Mr. John Battersby; 3, Triomphe Royale, Mr. John Edwards; 4, La Van Dicken, Rev. Saml. Creswell; 4, Camillus, Mr. Alexander Jackson; 6, Triomphe Royale, Mr. George Hudson; 7, Seedling, Mr. John Spencer; 8, Lady Leicester, Mr. Thos. Gibbons.

CLASS F.—Seedlings that have never gained a prize before.—*Feathered Bizarre*, Earl Richmond, Mr. John Slater.—*Feathered Rose*, Queen Victoria, Mr. Alexander Jackson.—*Flamed Rose*, Lady Clifton, Mr. Alexander Jackson.

CLASS G.—SIX DISSIMILAR BREEDERS.—First prize to Mr. Charles Turner, of Slough, for Pilot, Aide-de-Camp, Purple Perfection, Maid of Orleans, Lady Stanley, and Catherine.—Second prize, to Mr. Thomas Gibbons, for Pilot, Duke of Hamilton, Purple Perfection, Princess Royal, Surpasse le Grand, and Unknown. —Third prize, to Mr. John Battersby, for Gem, Sylph, Othello, No. 53, Sobraon, and No. 40.

CLASS H.—Seedling Breeders, which have not taken a prize before.—1, Mr. John Battersby; 2, Mr. John Spencer; 3, Mr. Geo. Frearson; 4, ditto; 5, Mr. William Scott; 6, ditto; 7, Mr. John Battersby; 8, Mr. Alexander Jackson; 9, Mr. William Scott.

MIDLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the Arboretum, Derby, May 28.

Judges—Mr. J. F. Wood, F.H.S., and Mr. Lymbery.

Six Blooms.—1. Sovereign, Captain White, Van Amburgh, Maid of Orleans, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Mr. Godfrey. 2. Sovereign, Captain White, Salvator Rosa, Chellaston Beauty, Aglaia, Triomphe Royale, Mr. Allestree. 3. Sovereign, Pilot, Unknown, Princess Royal, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Mr. J. Lowe. 4. Duke of Devonshire, Pilot, Bluebell, Princess Royal, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Mr. Forman. 5. Sovereign, Captain White, Baguet, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, Camillus, Mr. T. Storer.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Sovereign, Mr. Godfrey
2 Villa Flora, Mr. Atkin
3 Vivid, Mr. Allestree
4 Captain White, Mr. Parkinson
5 Polyphemus, ditto
6 Magnum Bonum, Mr. Lowe

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Captain White, Mr. Atkin
2 Pilot, Mr. Forman
3 Captain White, Mr. Storer
4 Polyphemus, Mr. Forman
5 Lord Milton, Mr. Allestree
6 Juliet, Mr. Greasley

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Britannia, Mr. Parkinson
2 Sancta Sophia, Mr. Parkins
3 Maid of Orleans, Mr. Godfrey
4 Baguet, Mr, Storer
5 Chellaston Beauty, Mr. Atkin
6 Lawrence's Friend, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Van Amburgh, Mr. Godfrey
2 Lord Denman, Mr. Parkins
3 La Bien Amie, ditto
4 Princes Royal, Mr. Parkinson
5 Lord Denman, Mr. Storer
6 Prince of Wales, ditto

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Mr. Godfrey
2 Comte, ditto
3 Heroine, ditto
4 Heroine, Mr. Parkins
5 Hero of the Nile, Mr. Parkinson
6 British Queen, Mr. Greasley

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, Mr. Lowe
2 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Forman
3 Fanny Cerito, Mr. Parkins
4 Lady Colville, Mr. Parkinson
5 Emily, Mr. Allestree
6 Camillus, Mr. Godfrey

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Pilot, Mr. Parkinson
2 Hamilton, Mr. Lowe
3 Seedling, Mr. Storer
4 Polyphemus, Mr. Parkins
5 Seedling, Mr. Parkinson
6 Unknown, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Chellaston Seedling, Mr. Parkins
2 Orleans, Mr. Forman
3 Criterion, Mr. Storer
4 Denman, Mr. Lowe
5 Surpasse le Grande, Mr. Parkinson
6 Denman, Mr. Lowe

Rose Breeders.

1 Anastasia, Mr. Parkins
2 Lady Stanley, Mr. Lowe
3 Chellaston Seedling, Mr. Parkins
4 Fanny Cerito, Mr. Parkinson
5 Catherine, Mr. Lowe
6 Catherine, Mr. Parkins

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

TULIPS OF 1853.

THE florist who watches the signs of the times will, we are convinced, readily perceive that a great revolution is taking place in the character of these flowers; form and purity are more appreciated in the north and midlands than formerly, and though stained flowers are still permitted to win in some localities (as our list of shows will testify), still we believe the time is not far distant when these will not be allowed to take a prize in many of the northern counties. We believe that they are wholly discarded in the south, and nearly, if not altogether, in the midlands. We find that some flowers which come stained on the stamens in one locality, or in one season, will be pure in another situation, or under other circumstances. For instance, Lord Lilford, feathered bizarre, will occasionally be stained, whilst this year, at Darlington and York, it was exhibited perfectly pure in every respect, and was certainly a very handsome flower; perhaps hardly up to the mark in shape, but still very useful. Lady Middleton was shown perfectly pure at Birmingham, last year, and the question naturally arises, how far a certain soil or compost may affect the delicate stamens of these flowers. Unfortunately it does not often happen that florists know enough of chemistry to analyze soil; but we are sure that a series of experiments on this subject would be highly interesting.

We are glad to find that red bizarres are getting into favour, and where stands of twelve flowers are shown, two of each class, they will be found indis-

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pensable to give variety; for there can be no question, if two stands were equal in other respects, contrast of colour would give the preponderating influence. This has not been much thought of, whilst six flowers only have been shown together, as they of course contrasted; but now the national exhibitions have stands of twelve, we would recommend it to the notice of exhibiters.

Of flowers not mentioned in our remarks on the National Exhibition, and which have come under our own observation, we must allude to three bizarres, raised by our friend Mr. Willison, of Whitby, and named Sir Joseph Paxton, King, and J. F. Wood. We like the last best, a short cup, with distinct black feather. It is a noble flower. The breeder had a very slight tinge, but in the rectified flower it had disappeared. With us, Sir J. Paxton was purity itself, with a stout well-formed cup, heavily beamed and feathered. King was not in first-rate character, but there is evidently a good flower in it. Mr. Lymbery, of Ison Green, has broken a very fine bizarre, a perfect feather, not too deeply laid on, and extremely pure. This is from the seedlings of the late Mr. New, of Liverpool, and has been entitled Great Britain.

Mr. John Slater, of Manchester, has also a very superior flower, named Adonis, large in size, fine in colour and marking. Blooms have been forwarded to Mr. Turner, of Slough, and to ourselves, and in both cases a flattering opinion of its merits was formed. Glory of Abingdon, a Berkshire flower, rich yellow, with dark flame, will do. This variety occasionally comes feathered, in which state it is very fine. Willmer's Milton, a wholly different flower to Pearson's Lord Milton, is a black feather, on yellow. Dark's Don Cossack is clear in ground colour, with a good cup, and fine dark feathering. Everard (Bowler) has been greatly admired for its good form, dazzling purity, and rich red flame, and in our estimation, is far superior to Strong's King. We must not forget Mr.

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Battersby's Regulator and Warden, both feathered bizarres, and both very promising flowers—the former, if anything, rather too narrow in the petal. Thomas Brown, and all his relatives, under whatever designation they may be known, certainly do not come up to the requisite mark here. Possibly we have not the strains. Full of colour is the usual character, whether they are known as Polyphemus, Ulysses, Memnon, or Albion, &c. Sharp's Victory is another which we think cannot win in the north or midlands, the exterior of the petals becoming creamy. Otherwise a fine flower. With us, Stier's Napier is a *wretch*, but surely it must be good with others, or it could never have had the high character which we have seen given to it. Caliph has been good. In cup like Pilot, but very distinct in marking and colour. Lamartine will not do; though rich, it is prone to run, and that early in the season. Sir Harry Smith, a short grower, and red feather or flame, should be grown. It comes in both characters, and though not a very striking flower, it will be useful for reasons previously assigned. Leonotus Posthumous is certainly Shakspere. If not, we shall be glad to be corrected. A little too long, but a rich and splendidly marked bizarre. Leonidas we have seen a noble flower this blooming season. Rather heavy in colour sometimes, but when well done, an acquisition. Earl Douglas we mention here because we believed it had been originated by Mr. Delaforce. A friend of ours says the true name is Bartlett's Rufus. We should like to know which of the two raised it from *seed;* perhaps some of our southern friends will enlighten us. At all events, as we have seen it feathered, whether Earl or Rufus, it will do. Lord Sandon is very like a Devonshire, a fine strain possibly. Are a few of these breeders to be obtained?

In feathered roses, a very scarce class (though we are happy to say we begin to enumerate some few very promising novelties), Foreman's Evelyn was with us very beautiful. A perfect feather, though it has a slight touch beneath the anthers, but only a

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touch that is just enough to swear by. Then we have Kate Connor, in her best dress (noticed a few pages further on), also a perfect feather, and pure. Rosy Gem and Rosy Queen are neat, well-marked, and pretty; whilst we have seen Arlette (Dixon) in very fine character indeed, beautiful in colour, and feathered most truly. Bion also has been done in good style, and when caught, is really a splendid variety, capable of standing a good struggle with any other in cultivation. Mary Lamb was very pretty, clean, and nicely feathered. It is somewhat too long. Respecting Reid's Lady of the Lake, another Scotch flower, on referring to our memoranda, made whilst in bloom, we find the following:—"Prettily marked flamed rose, long, narrow at the base, stained beneath the stamens." Now, what is Cerise Primo? we cannot show it here in the same stand as flamed Triomphe Royale; and Madame Catalina is in the same position. Then, again, what is Lachesis? A very near relative, we should think. Mrs. Wright, when in proper character, is a feathered rose, and a Chellaston, but generally too early to exhibit. We have seen it on one occasion fully expanded at an auricula show, being brought to exhibit its extreme precocity. It can be a very nice flower. Paul's Rose, feathered, we have seen very good this season. It is a lively flower, and makes a good third or fourth-row variety. Queen Mab, a seedling of our own, nicely feathered, but with dark stamens, has been dethroned. Marris's Salus is a promising feathered rose, very pure. It was raised from Heroine, but has better-topped petals than that favourite flower.

Byblœmens are now getting exceedingly numerous, and we have seen many of these very fine. On Mr. Adams's bed, at Derby, was a beautiful one, named Enchantress. It was flamed with light lilac, the colour of Lord Denman, and was extremely pure and attractive. There was another on this bed, equal to the best Salvator Rosa (Brown) we ever saw, and very much in the style of that crack flower. Criterion was very large and splendidly flamed. Earl of

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Glasgow (Scotch), with us, pointed, and certainly very bad. We speak of it as we found it. Dr. Lindley we also had from Scotland. This certainly has marking in its favour, being very prettily flamed, yet it is long, and stained both in base and stamens: we had preconceived a very high opinion of it, now, however, it must make its exit from our collection. Rutley's Queen, a southern variety, has been very finely feathered. It is creamy at first opening, but bleaches. The same may be said of Acapulca, though it requires much more bleaching than the Queen. Rembrandt is a noble fourth-row flamed byblœmen, of the largest size, and not by any means plentiful. It has been bloomed in good style in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, and excited general admiration. Its origin is unknown, but it is so much the fashion in the midlands, when a flower, and especially a byblœmen, is unknown, to assert that it must be a Chellaston, that though we do not say it is, we know nothing to the contrary. Of another, which is a Chellaston, we can give a good character, and that is Venus, which we saw, this season, beat a good Queen Charlotte; both were equally pure and equally marked, but the former was better shaped. Of Lyde's Miss Porter we can say nothing favourable. We have grown it for years, and though occasionally in such a state as to justify our keeping it, still it has never been showable. Camarine is too yellow at the base, and certainly will not do. In fact, flowers of this class are fast passing away, and the indispensable requirement of purity is consigning many otherwise fine flowers to oblivion.

STRAWBERRIES.

THE most suitable soil for the growth of strawberries is a good maiden loam, intermixed with a moderate quantity of well-rotted manure, and the best manure

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is cowdung. Previous to planting, the ground should be double dug, to enable the roots to get well down, that the plants may not be so liable to suffer from drought. If the soil is of a sandy nature, it may be greatly improved by adding a tolerable dressing of loam. After the ground has been trenched, the manure should be spread on, and forked in, but not too deeply. The chief thing in forming a strawberry bed, is to procure good strong plants, well rooted, as early in the season as practicable. To effect this, I get a sufficient quantity of sixty-sized pots, which I fill with soil, and plunge in the bed. On these I lay the plants, and fasten them down with a small peg; they soon become well rooted, when they are separated from the old plants, turned out of the pots, and planted on the ground prepared for them, in rows, two feet apart, and eight inches in the row. This allows for a light crop, such as lettuce or endive, being grown between the rows. The plants then receive no more attention, with the exception of keeping clear of weeds and runners, to encourage them to grow well. With this treatment, they will make fine crowns by autumn, and every plant will bear a good crop of fruit the following season. When the plants begin to grow, they are kept clear of runners, with the exception of those that are required for potting. As soon as the bloom is set, a good quantity of the sweepings of lawns, or littered hay, is laid betwixt the rows, for the purpose of keeping the fruit clean and free from grit. It also greatly assists the fruit, by preventing the ground from becoming baked, by too great an evaporation; for of all fruits, none so soon suffers from the want of moisture as the strawberry. When the plants have done bearing, the first year, two out of every three are removed, thus leaving those remaining two feet apart each way, which will not be too much for the second year's crop. The plants are cleared of all runners, and the ground receives a tolerable supply of manure, which is forked in just sufficiently

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to cover it. This greatly assists the growth of the plants in the autumn,—one of the principal points to be attended to, the rudiments of the future crop being formed at that time, which may be seen on examination of the crowns. Some gardeners recommend putting on the manure during winter, to form a protection; but this I consider not only a great waste of manure, but absolutely unnecessary; and as to acting as a protection, it does more harm than good, for by preventing evaporation, it keeps the roots and necks of the plants constantly in a wet state, and thus the effects of frost upon them are much more severe than when the soil is kept stirred, to allow the escape of moisture. There is also another serious objection to this kind of manuring, that is, the protection it affords to snails, slugs, and insects.

Much has been written at one time or other about mowing off the tops of strawberries, and I believe the system has still its advocates, but it is a practice that cannot be too strongly condemned, for we are well aware that upon the health and vigour of the leaves, the well-being of the plant depends. Let any one try the experiment, by taking off the leaves of any plant. It may grow, it is true,—but what sort of growth? Set it beside a plant that has not received such treatment, and compare the yellow sickly appearance of the one with the healthy green of the other. It is the same with strawberries. Cut off their leaves for a season or two, and see the result. Besides, not only are the plants injured, but the roots also; for there being no leaves to receive the sap, as a natural consequence, the roots sustain a check. They may imbibe sap, but there are no organs for its elaboration; consequently they are soon in a state of repletion, and many of them die. The stools of the plants will still contain some life, and may throw out a few roots, which will keep the plants alive for a time, until the severity of winter

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puts an end to their existence, and after they have disappointed their owner; the fault of mismanagement is laid on the unfortunately severe winter.

In regard to the duration of strawberry beds, there is great difference in the different varieties. British Queens should only stand one year. They require much more manure than any other variety, and instead of being planted as directed in the former part of this paper, they may be planted eighteen inches apart all ways. I have several times tried them a second season, but have always failed, as they do not set well, and the fruit is very inferior in size. But this strawberry is well worth a little extra trouble. With regard to other varieties, a period of three years is quite long enough; after that time, the fruit begins to get much smaller. Many means have been devised for the growth of strawberries,—gutters running between the rows, strawberry banks, and such like, but these I consider poor and expensive contrivances. By good management, under favourable circumstances, and making sure of good varieties, they may be made to answer every reasonable person's expectations.

As regards the different varieties of strawberries, there are none more worthy of general cultivation than Keen's seedling. It is large, early, of good flavour, and a good and certain bearer. A quantity of these should be planted at the foot of a south wall, for the first crop. Next to this, in my opinion, is Cuthill's Black Prince. This has become much more a favourite with me, this season, than it was before, both for forcing and outdoor cultivation, it being a most extraordinary bearer. The fruit is of good size, in fact, I have grown them this season as large as a good-sized Keen's Seedling. The flavour is also good. The British Queen is known to every one as large, of the finest flavour, and a good bearer, *when well managed.* Kitley's Goliath is another most valuable strawberry of the Queen class. It is supe-

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rior to it in being more hardy, and the fruit colouring better at the end. Cox's Scarlet and the Elton Pine are very similar to each other, both being valuable late sorts. They are large, and good bearers, but acid in flavour. Either of them answers well for preserving as jams, on account of their fine colour. A quantity of these should be planted at the foot of a north wall, for the purpose of keeping up a supply, after the general crops are over. Although there are many other varieties in cultivation, there are none superior to the above, which will be found sufficient for any garden, as they will keep up a good succession as long as the season lasts.

W. S. M. M.

FLORAL JOTTINGS.

BEING on a visit, a short time ago, at the house of a friend, who is quite an enthusiast in floriculture, and who generally obtains most of the new hardy plants advertised in your and other periodicals, I had abundant opportunity of observation, and as I saw many that were good, and some few only middling, which came out with a fine character, I have thought a few memoranda of those calculated to grow in gardens, whether large or small, might interest a large portion of your readers, many of them perhaps exhibiters at shows, who will be glad to hear of something in their line. I was particularly struck with some pæonies, varieties originated from P. alba. They do not make such large bushes or have such broad and ample foliage as the P. officinalis, and may therefore be grown closer together. P. festiva was white, with centre petals pale lemon, narrowly edged with pink. A very nice variety. P. alba nivatica was immensely large, beautifully white, and powerfully fragrant. It

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contrasted well with P. tenuifolia pleno, which flowers very freely. The foliage is cut almost as fine as fennel, producing flowers of a rich crimson, and very double. These are all highly desirable.

Antirrhinum Hendersonii was extremely singular and pretty, though I had certainly expected a somewhat different character. It is white, with pink stripes, and striped unlike anything else. Then there was Model of Perfection, with its delicate pink tracings, of fine form, excellent spike and habit. Golden Prince was a rich and brilliant yellow, not so good quite as Primrose Perfection in form and habit, but still very attractive and showy. Leverii was, amongst banded ones, very conspicuous; and the rich dark crimson of Cretia contrasted beautifully with those previously named.

In that showy class delphiniums, I did not like the variegated American variety; it is a coarse-growing thing, ramping up to eight or ten feet high, its flowers unattractive, and the foliage only moderately margined with pale yellow. I should say not worth growing, though my friend had given a good price for it. He had Delphinium magnifica in good style, but I fancy the centre of this fine sort is not quite so pure this season as I have heretofore seen it. He pointed out D. pumila elegans, which I did not think much of; and also D. Wheelerii, of which I had anticipated better things. D. major was grand, from seven to eight feet, a complete pyramid of rich double purple flowers. There were also some good seedlings, which he is choice of, and fancies the best yet raised.* There were large beds of D. chinensis, of all shades, from pure white to dark blue, many double, and some looking like morpological subjects, the petals having the appearance of little bunches of narrow green leaves.

* We should like to see specimens; for if they excel two which we have, we will give our correspondent's friend the credit of possessing the two best in existence.

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In dianthuses, which appear a favourite tribe with him, he showed me D. Edwardsii, which he stated he had received from you last spring. Though single, it is really most beautiful; a scarlet circle surrounds a white centre, whilst a pure white margin sets it off amazingly. This, I imagine, will be the precursor of an improved breed of sweetwilliams. Paters mule pink and D. passengerii were very much alike, larger than the common mule, and darker in the centre, but still not very distinct from each other. There was one, a double dark chocolate, with white edge, very singular and striking; my friend could not tell me the name; possibly you, or some of your correspondents, may be enabled to furnish information on this point. Whilst speaking of dianthuses, there was a fine collection of what are termed florists' pinks, white, with various coloured lacings; they had not "come" (I believe that was the term used) well this season, being more than usually rough on the edge, though the lacing of many struck me as remarkably correct. There were some of Read's, a florist of Bedfordshire, which were an exception, being very smooth, and apparently a fine race of flowers. There was Bertha, Ada, and Jenny Lind, remarkable for their fine petals, smoothness of edge, and regularity of marking. Maclean's Criterion was also attractive, but to my eye, in these matters there wants more contrast of colour; and the genuine florist should aim more at this, in originating seedlings, for what is so beautiful in a bed of these flowers, or ranunculuses, or tulips, as *contrast*. The flowers may be all very good individually, but if they are nearly of a colour, a great point of attraction is, in my humble opinion, overlooked.

What a quantity of roses were here, but of these I cannot now say anything, having perhaps "jotted" long enough. However, I am quite clear of this, that the things I have so briefly alluded to will give satisfaction to whoever obtains them.

J. H.

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Part II.

NEW PLANTS.

NOYER FERTILE. *(The Prolific Walnut.)*—We are now enabled to say a little more about this very productive variety. A plant, twelve feet high, is growing in the centre of a paved yard, at the back of our dwelling-house; it is a handsome and well-furnished tree, and at this time shows clusters of walnuts, varying from two to seven in number, at the point of almost every branch. It will be a most desirable sort to plant, from its precocity and reputed excellence.

PYRUS AUCUPARIA AUREA *(The Golden-leaved Mountain Ash)* will prove a valuable addition to hardy ornamental trees. We received one of this description, some years ago, from Mr. F. Fox, nurseryman, of Cliff Vale, near Leek, Staffordshire. The one above alluded to is a brighter yellow than this, and contrasts finely with other trees around it.

RHODODENDRON PARDOLOTAN we have just flowered, and a distinct much-spotted variety it is. When more plentiful, it will undoubtedly be a welcome addition, where these splendid plants can be cultivated.

LARIX VARIEGATA *(The Variegated Larch)*, a Continental variety, is and has been for two years, with us, "as green as a leek."

CASTANEA VARIEGATA TRICOLOR *(The Tricolored Spanish Chestnut)*, on the contrary, proves itself an interesting and well-marked variety, forming a beautiful small tree.

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Amongst other novelties which our arboricultural readers will be glad to hear about, is *Ilex furcata* and *Ilex microcarpa*, two very interesting additions to the already numerous family of the holly.

In flowers, we have seen many good things, which will be duly noticed at the proper time; but we take the first opportunity of alluding to *Kate Connor tulip*. As a matter of course, we spoke of it as we found it. We had a root, presumed to be a breeder, some few years ago: when it flowered, it proved to be a red bizarre. After this, we had an offset of the true sort, from Mr. Chippendale. It flowered last year, and, as we then said, an inferior flame. This year, it came with more appearance of feathering, but on opening, the colours were run. We have now great pleasure in stating, that the other day we got from Mr. Chippendale the petals of his this year's bloom, and they certainly gave evidence of a very beautiful flower, capitally feathered, and, in that state, one of the first flowers in its class. Having faith in Mr. Chippendale, we still look to our flower coming some day as it ought to do.

To those who are fond of variegated plants, especially among hardy perennials, such things as the *Cheiranthus variegatus*, with its beautifully laciniated foliage, edged with yellow, and the *Iberis umbellata variegata*, will prove highly acceptable. They are both decided acquisitions. We have not yet flowered them, but presume the former has yellow and the latter white flowers.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

CALCEOLARIAS.—Z. Z.—Your varieties are of the right stamp, something different to the interminable yellow and brown. We like No. 5 best. It is a very lively and novel variety, light buff ground, richly spotted with bronzy crimson. Next, 43, of fine form, cream ground, mottled and shaded with rich plum colour. Then No. 3, orange, with large mottled

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marone patch. The others are very pretty.—The pansy, though fine in colour, is not quite up to the mark in form, the lower petal being too small in proportion to the others.

RANUNCULUS.—LABERT.—Your rich orange seedling, edged with bronzy crimson, is a fine flower, large, well built, with a close and compact centre. Why did you not name it?

PANSIES.—G. S.—*Black Bess*, good form and rich in colour. Were there not several in the same style, it would be an acquisition. *Emily*, purple belt, on straw ground. Our friend will find the ground colour deeper on the lower petal than on the sides, which is now considered a defect.

R. A.—No. 1, a bold flower, strongly belted with purple. No. 6 we like much best, there being, independent of good form, more novelty about it than in the preceding. The medium belting of dark violet, on pale yellow ground, is very attractive.

G. M.—Though not first-class pansies, still your flowers are pretty. Name the yellow one "*Australia*."

R. O. O., *Birmingham*.—No. 1, *Ajax*, yellow ground, top petals and belting deep purple—the same shade, which we consider a great point; the eye large, rich chrome. A fine flower. No. 2, *Owen Glendower*, style of the preceding, except that the eye is more pencilled. No. 3, way of Mrs. Beck, though, in present condition, not equal to that flower. We should say that in merit they stand as numbered.

FUCHSIAS.—W. P., *Stroud*.—Both No. 1 and 2 are pretty, but do not possess sufficient novelty. There are already too many of the class.

PINKS.—C. A.—The six blooms of *Mary* were very beautiful in colour and regular in lacing. It has, according to present requirements, one defect. We fear the edge will be too serrated for a first-class flower, though there are scores named already rougher than it is, and not half so handsome.

ANTIRRHINUMS.—*Champion* and *Striped Perfection*, two attractively-marked flowers; *Golden Prince*, fine yellow; and *Cretia*, rich crimson; with *Modesta*, light ground, pencilled with pink, arrived safely, from some unknown friend. We are greatly obliged by the cuttings.

ALICK.—The seedling with yellow lip, striped with red, is a pretty variety. The other will not do.

TULIP PETALS, received from Mr. Slater. *Masterpiece* indicates a remarkably rich and fine flower. Ground deep yellow, black feather. *Tibalda*, having the appearance of not being in very good character, the beam, in present state, not distinct enough for a flame, and too much for a feather.

DIANTHUS.—Your sweetwilliams are pretty, though some are confused in colour and too much serrated on the edge. Name No. 4, 6, and 18. We should be glad to hear from any of our readers who may have raised novelties in this very pretty class of flowers.

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EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

BEGONIA FUCHSIOIDES.

BY ALPHA.

Among the many favourites of recent introduction in our plant houses, few are more deserving of attention than the Fuchsia-like Begonia. Its graceful habit, the brilliant colour of the flowers, the short time required to have plants in a blooming state, and the abundance with which its blossoms are produced, render it worthy of universal cultivation. To those with whom winter-flowering plants are in demand, this begonia will be found indispensable, and when well grown and bloomed, it cannot fail to be generally esteemed.

The plant being a favourite with me, I aim to have it in flower the whole, or at least the greater part of the year, and to secure this, it is necessary to propagate at two different seasons. In the first instance, cuttings are obtained in the beginning of February, selecting young healthy pieces, such as are not over full of sap, and which are rather firm. These strike freely, inserted round the sides of five-inch pots, and plunged in a close warm frame, where the bottom heat is about seventy-five or eighty degrees. Any light sandy soil will answer. I generally use equal parts of silver sand and leaf mould, the latter passed through a fine sieve, and thoroughly mixed with the sand. When the cuttings are well rooted, which will be the case in the course of a month, they should be potted singly, in five-inch pots, and replaced in the propagating frame, and if they can have the assistance of a gentle bottom heat all the better. When the pots become filled with roots, shift into eight-inch ones, and place the plants in a shady corner of the stove, or wherever it may be convenient, provided a temperature of sixty or sixty-five degrees

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is maintained, and a moist atmosphere kept up; but unless they occupy a shady situation, it will be necessary to screen them from the midday sun, as this species is rather impatient of bright sunshine, and if thus exposed, it loses that fine glossy appearance which the foliage presents when in vigorous health. When the pots become filled with roots, a little clear manure water will be beneficial; and they should be syringed with pure water, morning and evening. By the middle of June, they will require a final shift into thirteen-inch pots, and should be encouraged to make vigorous growth. With regard to stopping, they merely require to have any luxuriant shoot stopped, when it has attained the desired height, so as to regulate the flow of the sap, and induce the formation of lateral branches, upon which the flowers are produced. The stronger shoots should be supported by neat stakes, and tied out, so as to accommodate the side shoots which are to produce the flowers. Managed in this way, they form fine bushy plants, commence blooming in October, and continue in flower till March, or even later, if kept in a temperature of fifty or fifty-five degrees. A second lot of cuttings should be got in about the middle of July, and treated as the first, except that after the second shift, which they should receive in September, they may remain in eight-inch pots till February. During the winter, they should occupy a situation near the glass, where the temperature may average from fifty to sixty degrees. Early in February, a portion of the plants may be shifted into thirteen-inch pots, after which a slight increase of heat will be essential to their well doing, but when subjected to a high temperature at this early season, they should receive all the light that it is possible to give them. As the plants progress in growth, they must receive attention in the way of stopping and tying, and when the pots become full of roots, they should be watered frequently with clear manure. The remainder of the plants, if allowed to remain in their winter pots, and encouraged with a slight increase of temperature, will flower at

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an earlier period than those which occupy larger pots, or they may be left in a cool place until the middle of March, and then shifted to form a succession to to those shifted in February.

The begonia may be removed to a conservatory, when in flower, where it will continue to produce a constant succession of blossoms during several months; but unless the conservatory is treated something like an intermediate house, it will be necessary to place the plants in the warmest corner, where they will not be exposed to currents of cold air; a situation where they can receive abundance of light, without being exposed to the direct rays of the midday sun will be necessary, in order to have the flowers well coloured. After the blooming season is over, the old specimens may be thrown away, to afford space for young plants, which bloom more freely and produce finer trusses.

The soil best suited for this begonia in all its stages is equal parts turfy loam, peat, and well decomposed cow or horse manure. The peat and loam should be carefully broken, and used in as rough a state as the size of the shift will allow. The dung should be carefully mixed with sharp sand, previous to being mixed with the peat and loam. This tends to thoroughly separate any lumps, which otherwise would be sure to form a harbour for worms. The quantity of sand should be regulated according to the nature of the loam and peat, enough being added to secure perfect drainage, as this begonia is somewhat impatient of stagnant moisture about its roots.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

A Hint to Raisers of Seedling Tulips.—We should be glad to communicate with florists who are devoting themselves to the improvement of these beautiful flowers. Our object is, where agreeable, to obtain a bulb of a sort, to grow in "a bed of reference," and by this means to endeavour to obviate the mistakes, confusion, disappointment, and suspi-

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cion which too often occurs. We wish, when possible, to get them direct from the raisers, with their pedigrees, what saved from, whether cross-bred or not, when sown, and when first bloomed, with any other particulars. By this plan, whenever we had a flower sent, purporting to be such a sort, we should have the opportunity of verifying it by those received from the raiser, whose name we should publish, with the character of the breeder, and the rectified flower. Of course, they would remain the property of the raiser, unless an equivalent had been given, or other arrangement made. We anticipate that much good would result to growers individually, by the publicity given to their flowers, and to amateurs and purchasers generally, by this opportunity of verification.

Vitality of Tulip Bulbs.—Happening to take up a tulip bulb, this day, from a large quantity of seedlings that had been unplanted, I was much struck, upon examination, to find that in the boxes the large blooming roots had formed a new bulb, as well as small offsets, equally as large as those grown in the ground are at the present; and what is remarkable, they have never made any roots, nor received any nourishment from any source, having been kept, since last July, in the tulip-room, in the boxes. The stem which should have supported the flower is also in the same position (outside) as those grown in the beds.—John Slater, *Cheetham Hill, near Manchester, June 10th,* 1853.—P.S. The maiden roots were all decomposed.

Many cultivators of small gardens grow currants as bushes, on which plan they are often not properly pruned, or not pruned at all. To such we would recommend the following mode:—Get good two-year old plants of the White and Red Grape, or Long-bunched currants, cut the upright shoots clear off, then shorten the remainder close to a bud on the under side; the summer following, thin out the shoots, leaving twelve or fifteen; train these in autumn or

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winter to a willow hoop, two feet six inches in diameter, and tie the branches to the outside, six or eight inches apart; put in a hoop as required, and cut or spur the side shoots till the plant has attained the height of three and a half to four and a half feet; then shorten the leaders annually, though summer pruning is best, if time can be spared. Short-legged plants stand the firmest, six inches from the root to the head is what we prefer. Perhaps time will show us cherries, plums, and pears trained in the same way. In strong winds, the aid of a good stake on each side would be useful. Black currants will not do so well spurred as the others.

Part III.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Will you oblige a reader by telling him, in the next number, if guano-water is a good thing to give celery, when in the trenches, and what proportion of guano and water I ought to use? or if any other liquid will do as well?

J. W. HAMMOND.

LIQUID MANURE FOR CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.—Your contributor may safely apply the drainings from the stable, cow-house, or manure-heaps. It should be stored in a covered tank, in a perfectly clean state, and before using, any fermentation incidental to recent drainings should be permitted to pass off. When applied, dilute it with six or seven times its bulk of soft water, and let the plants have it about thrice a-week, in the evening, during the swelling of the buds. But it must always be borne in mind, a strong plant will luxuriate in that food which to a weakly one would be repletion and death. Where accessible, sheep-droppings form the basis of a liquid manure equal to any, but these I cannot obtain. Cow-manure also makes an admirably fertilizing liquid, but whenever a decoction is prepared from green manures, care should be taken to destroy the grubs they are so likely to engender, by the introduction of a small quantity of quick-lime. Stimulants of a cool nature are an essential for the carnation; everything hot and highly exciting, as guano, night-soil, &c. should be carefully eschewed.

E. S. D.

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VINES IN POTS.—W. M.—They will succeed perfectly well. Use good rich compost. A few bones, broken in large pieces, and placed as drainage, with a careful application of liquid manure, will be found highly beneficial.

RABBITS.—S. M.—We agree with you that they are a great nuisance to the florist as well as to the nurseryman. As we have elsewhere said, we have kept them from trees, during winter, by using brimstone rags; but for a small garden, like yours, there is nothing like wire net. This, if two feet high, and fastened along the bottom of your hedge, will effectually exclude them, and you may sleep in peace. We believe it can be procured, the height named, at from sixpence to sevenpence the yard.

TULIPS.—W. B.—Your ideas of purity coincide with our own. We would not tolerate stained stamens. We acknowledge that at one time we did, but we know better now. We would judge a flower as we find it—if exhibited impure, we would not allow it to win, if we could rule. Nevertheless, if it ever would be fine, we would grow it. At this time of day, and after all that has been said and written, we think that a man who staged a stained flower at one of the great exhibitions, would be very unwise. It is quite possible the judges might overlook such a defect, but we would not advise the chance to be given.

TULIPS.—TYRO.—Whoever offered to sell you Sable Rex, Lustre des Beautes, Potter's Albion, Rose Unique, and Vesta, was no friend of yours. The days of these flowers are numbered; and though we once gave a guinea for an offset of Sable Rex, we have discarded it long ago. Your friend will not grow the above sorts much longer.

POMONA.—We do not know by what other name Pike's Pearmain is known. It is a great bearer, handsome, and sells well. We would advise you to cut off the heads of your unproductive trees, and regraft with some of the more prolific varieties of recent date. We cannot advise you in the other matter you ask about.

ANTS.—P.—These may be driven away by strewing camphor in their holes and runs. As for wire worms, nothing beats slices of raw potato. On planting out a bed of pink pipings, the beginning of July, we introduced a dozen traps of this kind, and had the gratification of catching at least half-a-dozen of these destructive insects, which would, doubtless, had they not been caught, have destroyed a great number of pipings.

CELERY.—W. B.—Yes, apply liquid manure, but not too strong. We have had no experience in the variety you name. There are several celery shows at Nottingham.

LETTUCE.—G. M.—Sow in August.

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CARNATIONS.—QUERIST.—Some varieties produce more pollen than others. This knowledge will be acquired by observation. The anthers lie low down in the calyx, and when ready, may be taken with a small pair of ivory tweezers, and applied to the stigma of the variety which requires fertilizing.

MISTLETOE.—J. S.—We will think of it. We believe it has been grafted with success. We have seen it this year growing luxuriantly on the thorn and broad-leaved American poplar.

PINKS.—R. T.—Turner's Phœnix is one of the best six we have seen this season. There is great improvement in this class of flowers. Get a dozen pair of the best, and save your own seed. There is yet ample room.

THE CUP AT THE NATIONAL.—A SUB.—This was referred to in our last number. It is a subject we would rather have nothing to do with, though we must say, we think "A North Countryman's" *notion* pretty near the mark.

BIENNIALS.—JANE.—Sow them now, they will make stout plants by winter, and the sorts you name will require no protection.

I was not a little surprised at seeing an article in your number of May last, beginning with "On the 5th of June, 1849, a tulip show took place at Mr. Thos. Smith's, General Wolfe, North-gate, Blackburn, and amongst the members entered was Mr. Chippendale, of Tottleworth. It appears that at one of the meetings before the show-day, part of the members agreed there should be a stand of six blooms for the principal prize," and goes on to say that Mr. Chippendale won this stand with the following:—Charles X., San Joe, Bienfait, Davies's Queen Charlotte, La Belle Nannette, and Mason's Matilda. Now, if T. G. knows anything about it, he knows better. What Mr. Chippendale called Mason's Matilda was nothing more nor less than a flamed La Belle Nannette, or Triomphe Royale, and when I objected to Mr. Chippendale's stand, on the ground of its having two flowers of one sort in it, which was contrary to rule, his stand was taken into the room amongst the growers, and they all agreed that there were two flowers of one sort in it, and Mr. Chippendale is expelled from the show, by the growers, till he gives up the prize. Now, with respect to all going on smoothly, and all *moneys paid*, and the gentleman owning the second stand coming into the room and demanding the money from Mr. Chippendale, that is not correct. I did not demand the money from Mr. C., nor had there been any prize money paid. I was the treasurer, and had the money in my pocket at the time, and Thomas Hollinworth fetched the money from me, after I left the room. It is all very fine for Mr. C.

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to say he might have put in La Vandicken, or Aglaia, also to say he had not been informed of the rule that there should be six different sorts. When that rule was made, there was a full meeting of the growers, and they are the committee; but for what reason T. G. should put his article in the *Midland Florist*, after the thing lying dormant four years, I am at a loss to know. If T. G. wishes to say anything more on this subject, he will please sign his name, or no notice will be taken of what he may say. JAMES HOULKER.

No. 7, Strawberry Bank, Blackburn.

[T. G. stated his case, and got our reply. Mr. J. Houlker sends the above explanation, which we insert on the principle of hearing both sides of a question; but as a controversy will be of no interest to anyone but the parties concerned, we must decline anything further on the subject.—ED.]

MY GARDEN.

No. VIII.

I AM very glad to have been reminded by the most successful pelargonium exhibiter of the season, of an error into which I inadvertently fell, last month, as to these plants, and am glad to be able to give, in his own concise words, the "*multum in parvo*" of pelargonium culture, for the present time. "After they are cut down, they should be broke slowly, in the most open situation, not in heat, but placed in a little and quick heat, after being shook out and repotted. Standing in a frame is the best place, with the lights off, excepting in heavy rains.

Hollyhocks will soon be in perfection, and, from all accounts, they will be very fine this season. If wanted in spikes, for exhibition, they must be stopped and shaded. The hollyhock will seed very freely, but there is a very remote chance of getting any distinct and good varieties, unless hybridizing be skilfully performed. Carnations are very backward this season, and I fear will not be first-rate. They must be carefully guarded from sun and rain, and layering be finished as early in the month as possible. If auriculas were not repotted in May, they should

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be attended to now, as they will soon be making their autumn growth, and the supply of water may be somewhat increased. Fuchsias are now in perfection, and though there is not so much variety in them as in many flowers, their great delicacy and grace make them universal favourites. Cuttings should be put in now, that they may be well established before winter, and be ready for early blooming next year. A good sowing of cineraria seed should now be made, and cuttings taken from the old plants, as often as possible. The shorter the cuttings the better, as they will produce much more compact specimens than suckers. There will be plenty of work in the propagating department, just now, what with scarlet geraniums, pelargoniums, verbenas, petunias heliotropes, calceolarias, &c.; and on the skilful management of this will depend, in great measure, the gaiety of another season. Dahlias are, with me, growing most luxuriantly, the late rains having started them off well. I have no doubt the bloom, this year, will be fine. Keep them well tied out, and grow them as directed last month, remembering that fancies must not be grown so strong as the other kinds. I subjoin a descriptive list of fancies, to show what are their different characteristics, and the method I have found best adapted to the several varieties.

Elegantissima (Mitchell).—Five feet. Lavender, purple, and white. A novel and very distinct flower, of second-rate form and properties. Should be grown freely, but disbudded moderately.

Elizabeth (Procter).—Four feet. Rosy purple, with a blush stripe in the centre of each petal. Fine form, and constant, though some strains of it (if I may use such a term for the dahlia) seem liable to produce a hard centre. Requires average growth.

Empereur de Maroc.—Four feet. Deep marone and white. A very rich and well formed flower. Should be got well on, and not disbudded closely. It is rather hard in opening, and should have free growth, with an abundant supply of moisture.

Flora Mac Ivor (Keynes).—Three feet. Purple and white. A delicate and good shaped flower, that should be grown in

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stiff soil. It does not produce many shoots requiring to be removed.

Gasparine.—Three feet. Marone and white. A flower of very splendid colour, but inferior shape. Must be grown very strong, and disbudded closely.

Glorie de Kain.—Three feet. White, tipped and spotted with marone. A good-shaped and very constant variety, requiring average growth and disbudding.

Highland Chief (Keynes).—Four feet. Salmon and white. A large and coarse flower, but very showy, and one which may be allowed to carry all the blooms it produces.

Kingfisher (Turner).—Five feet. Dull salmon and white. Large and of good form, and not requiring a strong growth.

Kossuth (Drummond).—Four feet. Bright red, tipped with white. This variety combines the good qualities and faults of the Bath flowers, viz. a beautiful outline and petal, but an uncertain centre. Should be grown in strong soil, without much moisture.

Lady Granville (Bragg).—Three feet. Red and white. A good-shaped flower, requiring a luxuriant growth with close disbudding.

Laura Lavington (Keynes).—Three feet. Dark fawn and white. A very distinct and good-shaped flower, but soon blooms itself thin. To obviate this, a succession of plants should, if possible, be put out in rich but stiff soil.

La Paön (Tassart).—Three feet. Orange and red. A full-sized flower, of average properties, but must not be overdone.

Lilliput von Beefreuth.—Three feet. Red and white. A good-shaped and constant flower, rather small, and must be grown strong.

Miss Ward (Turner).—Four feet. Canary and white. A fine-shaped flower, but apt to quill. Should be got well on, and allowed to carry plenty of buds. Requires a free growth.

Mrs. Hansard (Edwards).—Three feet. Yellow and white. One of the best of the fancies, being of fine form, full size, and very constant, so that a bloom may always be depended on. Should be grown strong, but disbudded moderately.

Princess Charlotte (Miquet).—Three feet. Purple and white. A large and showy flower, of good form, but very liable to quill. Should be disbudded moderately, but grown freely, with plenty of moisture.

Rachel (Gaines).—Three feet. Purple and white. A distinct and very attractive sort, of good shape. Requires average growth, but must be disbudded moderately.

Spectabilis (Salter).—Three feet. Orange, striped with red. A constant flower, of good shape, requiring average growth.

J. J. C.

July 19th, 1853.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

LONDON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

May 14.

PELARGONIUMS on the whole were hardly sufficiently forward. The collection to which the first prize was awarded, however, was an exception, for it was loaded with large and fine blooms, possessing the highest colour, showing that with skill the difficulties of an adverse spring may be surmounted. The gold medal for the best twelve was awarded to Mr. Turner, of Slough, for Colonel of the Buffs, Magnet, Mochanna, Chiettain, Constance, Alonzo, Rosamond, Guilelma, Rowena, Virgin Queen, and Pride of the Isles. 2nd. Mr Dobson, of Isleworth, with Arethusa, Purpureum, Rosa, Rosamond, Virgin Queen, Leader, Ambassador, Chloe, Vanguard, Harriet, Leah, and Governor. 3rd. Mr. Westwood. 4th. Mr. Gaines. In these two groups we remarked Flying Dutchman, First of May, Rubens, Celia, Star, and Salamander. There was but one collection from private growers, and that only received a third prize, the varieties not being sufficiently in bloom. It came from Mr. Roser, of Streatham. Fancy pelargoniums were shown in great beauty, and commanded their usual share of attention. The best six plants were contributed by Mr. Turner, and consisted of Hero of Surrey in fine condition, Princess Marie, Galitzin, Reine des Français, Minerva, Amie, and Empress. 2nd. Mr. Ayres, Blackheath, with Formosissimum, Celestial, Mirandum, Magnificum, Gipsy Queen, and Duchess d'Aumale. 3rd. Mr. Gaines. 4th. Mr. Westwood. Of these the sorts not in the first lot were Defiance, Queen, Superb, Louis Van Houtte, Signora, Gasolonis, and Fairy Queen Two collections were staged by private growers, one from Mr. Roser, and the other from Mr. Robinson, of Pimlico. These took first and second prizes, in the order in which they stand. The varieties were Ambrose's Triumphant, John Bull, Fairy Queen, Picturata, Statiaski, Queen Victoria, Advancer, Erubescens, Princess Marie, and Galitzin.

CALCEOLARIAS were scarcely in full bloom. The first prize was awarded to Mr. Constantine, gardener to C. Mills, Esq., Hillingdon, for healthy plants, which required a little more time to be in perfection. 2nd. o Mr. Pestridge, gardener to W. Nuneham, Esq., Englefield Green.

CINERARIAS, of which there were six collections, were in excellent order, showing a great improvement on former exhibitions of this flower, in point of growth and general management. The first collection consisted of particularly dwarf neat plants. It came from Mr. Turner, and contained the following sorts:—Amy Robsart, Rosalind, Queen of Beauties, Mrs. Beecher Stowe, Mrs. Sidney Herbert, and Formosa. 2nd. Mr. Canstantine. 3rd. Mr. Beck, of Isleworth. 4th. Mr. Dobson. Of varieties that were good in these groups, and not in the first collection, were Lady H. Campbell, Bessy, Exquisite, Forget-me-not, Bertha, Wellington, Governor, and Aurora.

PANSIES.—Three collections of this really showy spring flower were exhibited in pots, forming a striking contrast, in point of beauty, with some that were shown in pans. Mr. Turner, to whom the first prize was awarded, had an admirable collection, comprising Monarch (a rich yellow ground variety, an improvement on Duke of Norfolk), Ophir, Flower of the Day, Lady Emily, Sir J. Cathcart, Euphemia, National, Great Western, British Queen, Sir J. Paxton, Marchioness of Bath, and Royal Standard. 2nd. Mr. Bragg, Slough. 3rd. Mr. Dobson. The sorts shown in the second and third collections, that were not in the first, were Blanche, Sir P. Sidney, Mr. Beck, Supreme, Duke of Perth, Pandora, and Lady Carrington.

AURICULAS were seldom seen in better condition so late in the season. A medal was awarded to Mr. Turner, for thirty-six plants in the most luxuriant health. The most conspicuous amongst them were Cheetham's Lancashire Hero, with thirteen expanded pips on one spike, Ne plus ultra, Matilda, Complete, Ringleader, Stapleford Hero, Apollo, Lovely Ann, Gen. Bolivar, True Briton, Prince of Wales, Smiling Beauty, Britannia, Violet, King James, and Regular. Mr. Willmer also exhibited twenty plants, to which a prize was awarded.

SEEDLINGS.—Several promising cinerarias were shown, the best of which were Optima and Lady Mary Labouchere, raised by Mr. Bousie, at Stoke Park. Both are white ground sorts, tipped with blue, the former heavily, the latter but lightly.

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South London, by the same raiser, is also good. Mr. Foster, Lady Camoys, Sivewright's No. 1, and Sambo were sent by Mr. Turner. Messrs. E. G. Henderson also produced several seedling cinerarias, and their new white bedding geranium, Boule de Niege, which promises to be a good plant for the purpose. Of seedling pelargoniums there were several, but it was too early to describe them. Mr. Beck sent Dido, Empress, Leah; Mr. Hoyle, Governor-General, Emperor, Indian Chief, and Eugenia.

AURICULA SHOW.

At Mr. T. Hollins's, Gardeners' Tavern, Boothen, near Stoke-on-Trent, May 14.

Premier.—Ne plus ultra, D. Lovatt.

Green-edged.

1 Lady Ann Wilbraham, D. Lovatt
2 Imperator, ditto
3 Howard's Nelson, T. Hollins

Grey-edged.

1 Privateer, C. Poulson
2 Lovely Ann, D. Lovatt
3 Warner's Union, ditto

White-edged.

1 Venus, D. Lovatt
2 Pillar of Beauty, ditto
3 Taylor's Glory, ditto

Selfs.

1 Dark, Othello, D. Lovatt
2 ,, Lord Lee, ditto
3 ,, Primate, ditto
1 Blue, Flora's Flag, ditto
2 ,, Blue Bonnet, ditto
3 ,, Seedling, ditto

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Dark, Cheshire Favourite, T. Hollins
2 Red, Buck's George IV., ditto
3 ,, Seedling, ditto

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. H. Daine, Windmill Inn, Carrington, Cheshire, May 21.

Bienfait, Adelaide, E. Dean
Camillus, Lady Crewe, Nunnerley
Duke of Devonshire, Wellington, P. Daine

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Dentonia, Nunnerley
2 Wellington, P. Daine
3 Trafalgar, ditto
4 Firebrand, E. Dean
5 Duke of Devonshire, Nunnerley
6 Crown Prince, E. Dean
7 Unknown, J. Thorniley

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, P. Daine
2 Pilot, Nunnerley
3 Charbonnier, ditto
4 Clement, J. L. Richardson
5 Lacantique, H. Daine
6 Lustre, T. Hollingworth
7 Catafalque, Nunnerley

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Lancashire Hero, E. Dean
2 Lord Gough, Nunnerley
3 Edgar, ditto
4 Surpass le Grand, E. Dean
5 Mango, H. Daine
6 Buckley's 46, Nunnerley
7 Bishop of York, E. Dean

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, E. Dean
2 Flora, Nunnerley
3 Chellaston, E. Dean
4 Queen Charlotte, Nunnerley
5 Toot, ditto
6 Louis XIV., E. Dean
7 Adelaide, J. L. Richardson

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, E. Dean
2 Comte, T. Hollinworth
3 Newcastle, Nunnerley
4 Unknown, ditto
5 Dolittle, H. Daine
6 Chellaston, J. Thorniley
7 Unknown, J. L. Richardson

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, T. Hollinworth
2 Lady Crewe, E. Dean
3 Seedling, E. Dean
4 Vesta, J. Ackerley
5 Rose Regina, J. Thorniley
6 Fleur des Dames, Nunnerley
7 Unknown, ditto

Breeders.

Pilot (bizarre), Nunnerley
Unknown (byblœmen), J. Ackerley
Newcastle (rose), E. Dean

Selfs.

Min d'Or, J. L. Richardson
White Perfection, J Ackerley

TULIP SHOW,

At the Town Hall, Leigh, May 25.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Paul Pry, W. Battersby
2 [illegible], R. Ratcliffe
3 Trafalgar, G. Boardman
4 Surpass Catafalque, R. Ratcliffe
5 Blucher, R. Ratcliffe

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6 Paganini, W. Battersby
7 Charles X., R. Ratcliffe
8 Waterloo, W. Battersby
9 Truth, R. Ratcliffe
10 Magnum Bonum, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Linnæus, R. Nield, Esq.
2 Lustre, R. Ratcliffe
3 Surpass Lacantique, R. Nield, Esq.
4 Unknown, J. Ashcroft
5 Albion, R. Ratcliffe
6 Careless, ditto
7 Stanley, ditto
8 Lacantique, ditto
9 Surpass Catafalque, R. Nield, Esq.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe
2 Baguet, ditto
3 Lancashire Hero, W. Battersby
4 Bienfait, R. Nield, Esq.
5 Mango, R. Ratcliffe
6 Atlas, ditto
7 Surpassant, W. Banks
8 Fonce a Fence, R. Nield, Esq.
9 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe
10 Ambassador, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Mango, G. Boardman
2 Cottager, ditto
3 Wallers, W. Banks
4 Adelaide, R. Ratcliffe
5 A Fond Noir, R. Nield, Esq.
6 Tout, ditto
7 Fuddler, W. Banks
8 Sable Rex, R. Nield, Esq.
9 Queen Charlotte, W. Banks
10 La Belle Narene, R. Nield, Esq.

Feathered Roses.

1 Comte, R. Ratcliffe
2 Heroine, ditto
3 Bagguley's Rose, ditto
4 Lady Lilford, R. Nield
5 Village Maid, J. Thomson
6 Lady Crewe, R. Ratcliffe
7 Unknown, R. Nield, Esq.
8 Walworth, W. Banks
9 Incomparable Diana, R. Ratcliffe
10 Seedling, W. Battersby

Flamed Roses.

1 Newcastle, R. Nield, Esq.
2 Rose Unique, R. Ratcliffe
3 Roi de Serres, W. Banks
4 Rose Regina, G. Boardman
5 Vesta, R. Nield, Esq.
6 Grand Valier, W. Banks
7 La Vandicken, R. Ratcliffe
8 Lady Lilford, W. Banks
9 Aglaia, R. Ratcliffe
10 Matilda, R. Nield, Esq.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Caliph, R. Ratcliffe

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe
2 Unknown, R. Nield, Esq.
3 Unknown, W. Battersby
4 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Lilford, J. Thomson
2 Portia, W. Battersby
3 Seedling, W. Banks
4 Unknown, ditto

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. J. Brown's, Florists' Hotel, Shaw Heath, Stockport, May 28.

Maiden Prizes.—1. Chas. X., T. Handford. 2. Lady Crewe, S. H. Cheetham.
Premium Prizes.—1. Baguet, Polyphemus, W. Alsop. 2. Heroine, Polyphemus, J. Clayton.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., T. Handford
2 Magnum Bonum, W. Alsop
3 Apelles, J. Clayton
4 Duc de Savoy, L. Hussey
5 Crown Prince, D. Sykes
6 Pass Perfecta, J. Clayton
7 Rising Sun, ditto
8 Catafalque, J. Fosbrook

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Duke of Lancaster, J. Clayton
2 Lustre, D. Woolley
3 Flame de Guard, T. Handford
4 Polyphemus, G. Greaves
5 Pilot, J. Hart
6 Unknown, J. Ashton
7 Waterloo, T. Green
8 San Joe, W. Garner

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, T. Green
2 Edgar, J. Clayton
3 Lancashire Hero, T. Green
4 Grotius, J. Hart
5 Beauty, ditto
6 Imperatrice de Maroc, B. Shottin
7 Violet Winner, T. Handford
8 La Belle Narene, W. Alsop

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Incomparable, T. Green
2 Baguet, J. Hart
3 Unknown, J. Fosbrook
4 Pyramid, D. Woolley
5 Adelaide, J. Clayton
6 Unknown, J. Hart
7 Maid of Orleans, ditto
8 Bienfait, B. Shottin

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, J. Clayton
2 Heroine, W. Alsop
3 Comte, J. Ashton
4 Andromeda, ditto
5 Lady Lilford, J. Hart
6 Dolittle, T. Green
7 Newcastle, J. Clayton
8 Walworth, T. Green

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, B. Shottin
2 Aglaia, J. Hart

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3 Triomphe Royale, J. Clayton
4 Rose Imperial, T. Handford
5 Camillus, J. Hart
6 Roi de Serres, T. Green
7 Vesta, L. Hussey
8 Lady Crewe, B. Shottin

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Duke of Hamilton, J. Hart
2 Catafalque, J. Fosbrook
3 Sunbeam, T. Handford
4 King Richard, D. Woolley
5 Polyphemus, W. Smith
6 Unknown, D. Woolley

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Unknown, D. Woolley
2 Maid of Orleans, D. Woolley
3 Godet Parfait, ditto
4 Clegg's No. 5, T. Green
5 Buckley's No. 71, ditto
6 Seedling, J. Hart

Rose Breeders.

1 Anastasia, J. Clayton
2 Newcastle, J. Fosbrook
3 Jane Grey, T. Green
4 Crewe, W. Alsop
5 Unknown, D. Woolley
6 Lady Lilford, J. Hart

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, B. Shottin
2 White Perfection, J. Clayton

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. T. Hollins's, Gardeners' Tavern, Boothen, near Stoke-on-Trent, May 28.

1st Pan, Charles X., San Joe, Grotius, Bagot, Lady Crewe, Aglaia, E. Poulson. 2nd. Duke of Devonshire, San Joe, Countess of Flanders, Bijou de Amateurs, Lady Duro, Aglaia, A. Shaw. 3rd. Charles X., Charles X., Bagot, Lord Denman, Heroine, Aglaia, T. Cooper. 4th. Charles X., Pilot, Buckley's No 46, Van Amburgh, Thalestris, Lady Crewe, T. Hollins.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., A. Shaw
2 Surpass Catafalque, ditto
3 Rising Sun, T. Hollins
4 Comte Villafior, A. Shaw
5 Dentonia, ditto
6 Rufus, T. Hollins

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Dentonia, T. Hollins
2 High Carlos, A. Shaw
3 Sidney, E. Poulson
4 Negress, T. Cooper
5 Polyphemus, E. Poulson
6 San Joe, ditto

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, T. Hollins
2 La Belle, E. Poulson
3 Ambassador, ditto
4 Bagot, T. Hollins
5 Duc de Bordeaux, T. Cooper
6 Bagot, A. Shaw

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Unknown, E. Poulson
2 Lucidas, A. Shaw
3 Charlotte, E. Poulson
4 Unknown, T. Cooper
5 Miss Avery, T. Cooper
6 Turner's No. 63, E. Poulson

Feathered Roses.

1 Comte de Vergennes, E. Poulson
2 Crompton's Rose, ditto
3 Lady Crewe, A. Shaw
4 Comte, ditto
5 Andromeda, T. Cooper
6 Clio, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, E. Poulson
2 Triomphe Royale, T. Cooper
3 Aglaia, T. Hollins
4 Thalestris, E. Poulson
5 Camilla, T. Cooper
6 Georgius Tertius, E. Poulson

Breeders.

Gold Cup (bizarre), T. Hollins
Maid of Orleans (byblœmen), ditto
Lady Lilford (rose), ditto

Selfs.

White Flag, T. Hollins
Min d'Or, ditto

MANCHESTER AND SOUTH LANCASHIRE TULIP SOCIETY.

At the Belle Vue Gardens, May 28.

1st Pan. Charbonnier Noir, Magnum Bonum, Lord Denman, Lewold, La Vandicken, and Heroine, G. W. Hardy, Esq. 2nd. Curion, Vanguard, Queen Charlotte, Maid of Orleans, Triomphe Royale, and Heroine, I. G. Heap, Esq. 3rd. Pilot, Magnum Bonum, Lord Denman, Lord Gough, Aglaia, and Heroine, R. Nunnerley, Esq.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 San Joe, Mr. Hinscliffe
2 Royal Sovereign, Mr. Richardson
3 Paul Pry, Mr. Peacock
4 Surpass Catafalque, Mr. Hardy
5 Rufus, Mr. Hardy
6 D. of Devonshire, Mr. Bromiley
7 Magnum Bonum, Mr. Richardson
8 Competitor, Mr. Hardy

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, Mr. I. Morris
2 Pilot, Mr. Ackerley
3 Earl Radnor, Mr. Peacock
4 Caliph, Mr. Nunnerley

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5 Charbonnier Noir, Mr. Richardson
6 Lustre, Mr. Ackerley
7 Cyclops, Mr. Barlow
8 Paul Pry, Mr. Peacock

Feathered Byblæmens.

1 Incomparable Surpassant, Mr. Barlow
2 Beauty of the Plain, Mr. Hardy
3 Britannia, Mr. Dixon
4 Beauty, Mr. Bromiley
5 Bienfait, Mr. Ashmole
6 Lady Stanley, Mr Heap
7 Edgar, Mr. Bromiley
8 Kosciusko, Mr. Hardy

Flamed Byblæmens.

1 Lord Denman, Mr. Hardy
2 Incomparable, Mr. Heap
3 Violet Brun, ditto
4 Surpassant, Mr. Nunnerley
5 Bienfait, Mr Barlow
6 Beauty of the Plain, Mr. Hardy
7 General Barnaveldt, Mr. Thornley
8 Grace Darling Mr Nunnerley

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Mr. Hardy
2 Lady Crewe, Mr. Cheetham
3 Comte de Vergennes, Mr. Barlow
4 Newcastle, Mr. Dixon
5 Seedling, Mr. Heap
6 Aglaia, Mr. Hardy
7 Polyhymnia, Mr. Barlow
8 Bion, Mr. Thornley

Flamed Roses.

1 La Vandicken, Mr. Hardy
2 Aglaia, ditto
3 Beauty of Lightcliffe, Mr. Hinscliffe
4 Unique, Mr. Cheetham
5 Fleur des Dames, Mr. Nunnerley
6 Andromeda, Mr. I. Peacock
7 Thalestris, Mr. Thornley
8 Triomphe Royal, Mr. Ackerley

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Pilot, Mr. Nunnerley
2 Seedling No. 43, Mr. I. Peacock
3 Seedling No. 41, ditto
4 Kossuth, Mr. Nunnerley

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Seedling No. 26, Mr. I. Peacock
2 Godet Parfait, Mr. Heap
3 Van Amburgh, Mr. Nunnerley
4 Seedling No. 27, Mr. Peacock

Rose Breeders.

1 Catherine Gordon, Mr. Heap
2 Kate Connor, Mr. Hardy
3 Lord Derby, ditto
4 Lady Stanley, Mr. I. Peacock

AMATEUR TULIP SOCIETY.

The tenth annual exhibition of the above society took place at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, on Monday, the 30th of May, and, notwithstanding the untoward nature of the season, proved to be the best the society ever had, and probably for the quality of the flowers, the best which had ever been seen in the United Kingdom. Certainly the first four stands might challenge comparison with anything which has ever yet been produced in public, and came as near to perfection, both in growth and character, as could be attained with the varieties now in cultivation.

Mr. Headly's stand was highly interesting, and attracted much attention, from the fact of its consisting entirely of seedlings of that gentleman's own raising, the majority of which were of the highest order of merit. It will be seen that this collection furnished the finest byblœmen in the room. After the show, the members and their friends dined together, the company, as usual, including the very first cultivators of the day; among whom may be mentioned Mr. Henry Goldham; Mr. Lawrence, of Hampton; Mr. Willmer, of Sunbury; and Mr. Lightbody, of Falkirk.

In the course of the evening, E. T. Clark, Esq., on the part of the members and honorary members of the society, presented to the honorary secretary, Mr. Crook, a costly silver coffee pot, and cream ewer, of elegant design, in token of their approval of the manner in which he has fulfilled the duties of his office, from the first establishment of the society to the present time. The estimation in which they are pleased to hold his services was also further set forth in a beautifully written testimonial, which accompanied the above elegant present.

Subjoined is the award of the judges, Messrs. H. Goldham, R. L. Lawrence, and Willmer.

1st Prize.—Lady Crewe, Spinx, Cerise Belleforme, Vivid, Bion, Sir H. Smith, Cleopatra, Acapulca, and Sir James Watt, S. Sanders. Esq., Staines.

2nd Prize.—Princess Royal, Royal Albert, Catalani, La Belle Nannette, Elthiron, Pandora, Marcellus, Cerise Belleforme, and Strong's King, S. Treacher, Esq., Wycombe.

3rd Prize.—Triomphe du Monde, Gyges, Cerise Belleforme, Glory of Abingdon, Cerise Blanche, David, Roi de Siam, Triomphe Royale, and Polyphemus, R. H. Betteridge, Esq., Abingdon.

4th Prize.—Captain Fuhelin, Gem, Menelaus, Calliope, Titian, Proserpine, Pactolus, Telemachus, and Aurora (all seedlings), R. Headly, Esq, Stapleford.

5th Prize.—Princess Royal, New Bizarre, Camuse de Craix, Lady Stanley Chellaston Beauty, Surpass Catafalque, Polyphemus, La Belle Nannette, and Brown's Wallace, J. Macefield, Esq., Hoxton.

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6th Prize.—Royal George, Mountain Sylph, Vivid, Norman's William, Maid of Orleans, Crook's Mary, Purple Perfection, Triomphe Royale, and May's Ulysses, C. L. Crook, Esq., Brixton.

Recommended by censors for a prize, as equal to sixth.—Royal George, Cerise Blanche, Franciscus Primus, Rose Astonishing, Vivid, Optimus, Lord Strathmore, Cleopatra, and Camuse, P. Wallace, jun., Esq., Petersham.

Prizes for Single Blooms.

Best Rose, Bion, S. Sanders, Esq. | Best Bizarre, Ulysses, A. Lane, Esq.
Best Byb., Proserpine, R. Headly, Esq. | Best Tricolor, Sultan, W. Duttson, Esq.

Prizes for Seedlings.

Best Rose, Regina, R. Headly, Esq. | Best Byblœmen, Adonis, R. Headly, Esq.

No bizarre seedling of sufficient merit having been produced, a second byblœmen, raised by Mr. Norman, of Woolwich, but not yet named, was recommended by the censors for a prize.

LEICESTER SOCIETY OF AMATEUR FLORISTS,

At the Wiclife Rooms, Leicester, May 30.

Pans of Six.—1. Captain White, Ambassador, Princess Royal, Sharpe's Victory, Anastasia, and Comte de Vergennes, R. Marris. 2. Dutch Catafalque, Captain White, Violet Grand Turc, Norwich Bagot, Hero of the Nile, and Dutch Bacchus, J. D. Hextall, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. 3. Pilot, Triomphe Royale, ditto feathered, Violet Alexander, Catafalque Superior, and Sancta Sophia, W. Mitchell,

Pans of Three.—1. Triomphe Royale, Polyphemus, and Princess Royal, R. Marris. 2. Aglaia, Surpass Catafalque, and Violet Alexander, W. Mitchell. 3. Pilot, Mason's Matilda, and Clarke's Prince George, F. W. Hollyoake. 4. Platoff, Triomphe Royale, and Violet Grand Turc, J. D. Hextall.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Magnum Bonum, W. Mitchell
2 Duke of Devonshire, R. Marris
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Earl St. Vincent, W. Mitchell
5 Catafalque Superior, ditto
6 Magnum Bonum, J. D. Hextall
7 Duke of Devonshire, R. Marris
8 Magnum Bonum, W. Mitchell

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, R. Marris
2 Captain White.
3 Polyphemus, W. Mitchell
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Optimus, ditto
6 Charbonnier, R. Marris
7 Captain White, ditto
8 Platoff, W. Mitchell

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Grace Darling, R. Marris
2 Princess Royal, J. D. Hextall
3 Countess of Harrington, W. Mitchell
4 Baguet, J. D. Hextall
5 Baguet Primo, ditto
6 Reid's Prince Albert, ditto
7 Ambassador, ditto
8 Superb en Noir, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Violet Alexander, R. Marris
2 Violet Alexander, W. P. Cox
3 Violet Wallers, W. Mitchell
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Camarine, F. W. Hollyoake
6 Georgius Tertius, W. Mitchell
7 Clark's Lavinia, R. Marris
8 Georgius Tertius, W. Mitchell

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Stanley, R. Marris
2 Triomphe Royale, W. Mitchell
3 Lady Stanley, J. D. Hextall
4 Triomphe Royale, W. Mitchell
5 Walworth, ditto
6 Triomphe Royale, ditto
7 Lady Stanley, J. D. Hextall
8 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Hollyoake

Flamed Roses.

1 Baquet Primo, J. D. Hextall
2 Baquet Rigauet ditto
3 Clarke's Lavinia ditto
4 Triomphe Royale, ditto
5 Aglaia, W. Mitchell
6 Triomphe Royale, F. W. Hollyoake
7 Triomphe Royale, R. Marris
8 Anastasia, ditto

WILLIAM POSTLETHWAITE'S TULIP MEETING.

At the Florists' Arms, Union-street, Leigh, May 30.

Maiden Pans.—1. Charles X., Mango, Heroine, Lustre, Siam, and Unique, T. Hardman. 2. Charles X., Violet Winner, Incomparable, Heroine, Dolittle, and Unique, W. Belshaw. 3. Duc de Savoy, Waterloo, Mango, Heroine, Lady Crewe, and Dolittle, James Postlethwaite.

1. Charles X., Bienfait, Heroine, Albion, Wallers, and Unique, G. Mort. 2. Charles X., Baguet, Walworth, Lustre, Wallers, and Unique, A. Belshaw. 3. Charles X., Mango, Lady Crewe, Lustre, Wallers, and Unique, R. Davis.

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4. Crown Prince, La Belle Narene, Andromeda, Albion, Siam, and Unique, J. Tyldsley. 5 Charles X., Baguet, Lady Crewe, Linnæus, Siam, and Unique, J. Boardman. 6. Crown Prince, Bienfait, Heroine, Dutch Catafalque, Bienfait, and Unique, R. Mort. 7. Charles X., Mango, Comte, Lustre, Bienfait, and Unique, J. Eaton. 8. Pass Catafalque, Baguet, Heroine, Polyphemus, Wallers, and Vesta, John Postlethwaite. 9. Magnum Bonum, Mango, Duc de Bronte, Pass Lacantique, Maitre Partout, and Unique, T. Smith. 10. Pass Catafalque, Village Maid, Mango, Lustre, Siam, and Unique, J. Leather. 11. Charles X., Bienfait, Lady Crewe, Pass Catafalque, Siam, and Unique, J. Smith.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., G. Mort
2 Magnum Bonum, ditto
3 Crown Prince, John Postlethwaite
4 Pass Catafalque, J. Leather
5 Lord Lilford, John Postlethwaite
6 Firebrand, J. Thompson
7 Duc de Savoy, J. Buckley
8 Wellington, John Postlethwaite
9 Trafalgar, J. Leather

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre, A. Belshaw
2 Polyphemus, John Postlethwaite
3 Albion, J. Mort
4 George IV., R. Davis
5 Lord Lilford, A. Belshaw
6 Carlos, R. Davis
7 Pass Lacantique, A. Belshaw
8 Linnæus, J. Boardman
9 Charbonnier, R. Mort

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Smith
2 La Belle Narene, J. Mort
3 Mango, W. Postlethwaite
4 Lancashire, John Postlethwaite
5 Washington, T. Hardman
6 Ambassador, J. Mort
7 Baguet, T. Boydell
8 Fonce a Fonce, R. Davis
9 Beauty, John Postlethwaite

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Queen Charlotte, John Postlethwaite
2 Siam, T. Hardman
3 Wallers, A. Belshaw
4 Criterion, J. Belshaw
5 Bienfait, W. Postlethwaite
6 Tout, J. Tyldsley
7 Fond Noir, J. Prescott
8 Sable Rex, J. Smith
9 Baguet, J. Thompson

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, R. Mort
2 Lady Crewe, R. Davis
3 Comte, R. Mort
4 Walworth, John Postlethwaite
5 Andromeda, J. Buckley
6 Dolittle, J. Boardman
7 Hero of the Nile, T. Smith
8 Lady Lilford, R. Davis
9 Rose Selina, John Postlethwaite

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Unique, J. Leather
2 Vesta, J. Buckley
3 Lady Crewe, J. Belshaw
4 Camillus, G. Mort
5 Rose Ann, J. Boardman
6 Incomparable, J. Eaton
7 Lord Hill, G. Mort
8 La Vandicken, John Postlethwaite
9 Aglaia, G. Mort

Breeders.—1. Dentonia and two unknown, J. Smith. 2. Unknown, Polyphemus, and Anastasia, J. Belshaw. 3. Unknown, Truth, and Newcastle, T. Belshaw. Charbonnier, Maid of Athens, and Catherine, G. Mort. 5. Sunbeam, Gibbons, and Newcastle, R. Davis. 6. Duke of Hamilton, unknown, and Catherine, John Postlethwaite. 7. Seedling, Catherine, and Village Maid, R. Mort. 8. Three seedlings, J. Eaton.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Duke of Hamilton, J. Mort
2 Unknown, J. Ashcroft
3 Seedling, A. Belshaw
4 Unknown, G. Mort
5 Unknown, J. Buckley
6 Pilot, J. Tyldsley

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Maid of Orleans, P. Buckley
2 Seedling, J. Eaton
3 Unknown, J. Belshaw
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Unknown, P. Buckley
6 Unknown, J. Smith

Rose Breeders.

1 J. Boardman
2 Village Maid, R. Mort
3 Unknown, G. Mort
4 Unknown, T. Belshaw
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Unknown, J. Buckley

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Smith
2 White Self, A. Belshaw

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of Mr. Wm. Emony, Red Gate, near Longton, June 4.

1st Pan, Charles X., San Joe, Maid of Orleans, Lucy Neil, Lady Crewe, Triomphe Royale, I. Johnson. 2nd. Charles X., Polyphemus, Maid of Orleans, Lord Denman, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, A. Shaw. 3rd. Rufus, Polyphemus, Maid of Orleans, Bagot, Comte. Aglaia, D. Brown. 4th. Charles X., Polyphemus, Bagot, Siam, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, E. Poulson. 5th. Charles X.,

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Pilot, Maid of Orleans, Princess Royal, Heroine, Aglaia, T. Cooper. 6th. Rufus, Charbonnier, Bagot, Bagot, Pretiosa, Miss Catherine, T. Hollins.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Magnum, A. Shaw
2 Charles X., ditto
3 Rising Sun, D. Brown
4 Pass Catafalque, T. Hollins
5 Cobden, ditto
6 Rufus, A. Shaw

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Captain White, A. Shaw
2 Rubens, ditto
3 San Joe, ditto
4 Charles X., E. Poulson
5 Rufus, ditto
6 Cobden, T. Hollins

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bagot, T. Hollins
2 Countess of Flanders, E. Poulson
3 Maid of Orleans, ditto
4 Rob Roy, ditto
5 Blœmart, ditto
6 Bienfait, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Incomparable Surpassant, T. Hollins
2 Prince Elie, D. Brown
3 Sugy de Bou, E. Poulson
4 Prince Albert, T. Cooper
5 Prince Royal, A. Shaw
6 Lucy Neil, ditto

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, D. Brown
2 Heroine, A. Shaw
3 Comte, ditto
4 Andromeda, J. Johnson
6 Ne plus ultra, A. Shaw

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, E. Poulson
2 Camilla, T. Cooper
3 Unknown, D. Brown
4 Triomphe Royale, T. Hollins
5 Andromeda, A. Shaw
6 Camilla, ditto

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Charbonnier, D. Brown
2 Charbonnier
3 Polyphemus, T. Cooper

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Chellaston, D. Brown
2 Maid of Orleans, E. Poulson
3 Chellaston, T. Cooper

Rose Breeders.

1 Anastasia, D. Brown
2 Triomphe Royale, A. Shaw
3 Chellaston, D. Brown

STOCKPORT FLORAL SOCIETY.

At the Navigation Inn, Lancashire Hill.

Premier Prize.—Bienfait, J. Morris.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., S. Brown
2 Magnum Bonum, R. Alsop
3 Surpass Catafalque, J. Morris
4 Apelles, W. Alsop
5 Lord Lilford, T. Simpson
6 Trafalgar, S. Brown
7 Crown Prince, S. Earles
8 Waterloo, S. Brown

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, J. Morris
2 Charles X., ditto
3 Lustre des Beauties, ditto
4 Albion, G. Greaves
5 Beaute Parfait, ditto
6 Lacantique, J. Morris
7 Rufus, W. Smith
8 Waterloo, S. Brown

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, D. Woolley
2 Bagot, W. Alsop
3 Grotius, ditto
4 Beauty, J. Brown
5 Ambassador, J. Morris
6 Orleans, W. Alsop
7 Surpassant, R. Alsop
8 Violet Winner, S. Brown

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Incomparable, W. Smith
2 Gibbons, J. Morris
3 Gadsby's Magnificent, H. Brown
4 Bienfait, S. Brown
5 Violet Winner, H. Brown
6 Pyramid of Egypt, D. Woolley
7 Baguet, J. Morris
8 Lord Vernon, S. Brown

Feathered Roses.

1 Comte de Vergennes, W. Smith
2 Newcastle, J. Morris
3 Lady Crewe, S. Brown
4 Heroine, R. Alsop
5 Duc de Bronte, D. Woolley
6 Dolittle, G. Greaves
7 Rose Acacia, J. Morris

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Unique, W. Alsop
2 Aglaia, J. Morris
3 La Vandicken, D. Woolley
4 Andromeda, G. Greaves
5 Fairy Queen, S. Brown
6 Lady Crewe, J. Morris
7 Triomphe Royale, ditto
8 Vesta, D. Woolley

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Unknown, J. Morris
2 Perkins's Seedling, ditto
3 Catafalque, S. Brown

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Godet Parfait, D. Woolley
2 Unknown, ditto
3 Clegg's No. 2, ditto

Rose Breeders

1 Catherine, J. Morris
2 Duchess of Newcastle, S. Brown
3 Lord Derby, J. Longton

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE NATIONAL CARNATION AND PICOTEE SHOW.

A MERRY party we were at the Derby station, at two o'clock on the morning of the 3rd of August, when we started by mail train for the good and ancient city of York, to attend the national carnation and picotee society, with the show boxes, which, after the lids had been just raised to see that the blooms were not displaced, were stowed away in the same carriage as the "hopeful" florists. Little occurred to vary the monotony of a night journey by rail, except that inexhaustible fund of "preachment" which florists alone enjoy, and which, to the uninitiated, is most "prosy stuff." In fact, such was the pertinacity of one of our party, that when the grey mists of the morning flooded the low grounds between Masborough and York, and "nodding" was the rule rather than the exception, he was by unanimous consent voted "a common disturber." The early Yorkites were just on the move when we arrived, and as breakfast could not then be obtained, we and a brother censor took a stroll as far as the noble and time-honoured minster, besides having a peep at most of the antique churches of the city. It was with a feeling akin to awe that we viewed the stately pile of the cathedral church, but our sense of propriety was somewhat shocked on seeing a garden on one side of it filled with slovenly specimens of larkspurs and poppies, and the paths covered with myriads of stunted samples of groundsel, just coming into bloom. As we turned our eyes from the majestic building, and glanced at this specimen of bad taste,

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we thought how often are the sublime and ridiculous in juxtaposition. The same fault was observed in several of the church-yards—gaudy, slovenly, ill-tended flowers. Surely something better than this should be attempted. Why not have trees of a suitable character—Upright Irish yews, cypresses, &c., with prostrate junipers, &c. to cover the mounds? These would be in keeping with the locality, and would also look well. We know not whether our periodical finds its way into the hands of any of the dignitaries of the church, but with all due respect, we would suggest some such alteration as we have pointed out. After breakfast, as our services were not required till ten o'clock, we strolled round the walls, and were surprised to find so much open space, either in grass or gardens, within them. In a retired spot on the outside, which we learned was the resting-place of those who died of the cholera, were planted some very appropriate trees. They were fine specimens of weeping elms, weeping beech, and weeping willows, their pendulous character harmonizing with the place, in the same way as the yew and cypress would be applicable to the sombre and antiquated churches within the walls. Our next visit was to the castle. Here we wandered round the dilapidated walls of Clifford's tower, and enjoyed the splendid prospect which lay before us. At a distance, was a mound, with a pillar, which the governor kindly informed us was the spot where the Roman emperor Severus was buried, and that three hundred years after his decease, his remains were removed to Rome. He further informed us, that when York was besieged, the cannons were placed on this hill, and that very lately cannon balls had been dug up at the base of the tower on which we were standing. The ivy now clasps the battlements in its close embrace, whilst a walnut tree occupies the centre of the venerable pile, and throws its luxuriant branches around. After enjoying the prospect, we departed, but not without noticing a fine Quercus cerris, or Mossy-cupped oak,

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with peculiarly laciniated foliage, which stands on the left of the entrance to the castle yard, and which we think might be advantageously propagated. As it now approached our time, we went to our rendezvous, the grounds belonging to the Lunatic Asylum. Here we found several marquees, filled with choice plants, as well as a most excellent collection of fruits, and a gorgeous display of florists' flowers, more particularly carnations and picotees, these being, *par excellence*, "the flowers of the day." Considering the season, there were many more and better specimens than we anticipated, and as there was evidently plenty of work to do, we enlisted the services of Mr. John Holland, of Middleton, near Manchester, who kindly consented to aid us in making the awards. Thus we had the opinions of judges from Lancashire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, and the south, to bear on any contested point, but unanimity was the order of the day, as far as what a flower ought to be; and thus we see the amazing good which these national exhibitions are calculated to accomplish amongst the great body of florists, and till each and every florists' flower has its *national*, we shall not feel satisfied that enough has been done. In fact, a national dahlia show, to come off at York, in 1854, is now in train, with promise of great patronage, and here do we hope that our brothers across the border will be able to meet in friendly rivalry with the florists of England. But to our task. We judged the nurserymen's stands first, and here we must pay a tribute of praise to the zeal of Mr. Keynes, who brought his flowers in first-rate style from Salisbury, and who deservedly gained the first position. In this stand was Schofield's Magnificent, a noble rose flake, of large size. If it had a fault, it was perhaps rather too high coloured, we mean too much pink in proportion to the white; nevertheless it is a capital sort. Old Curzon (S.B.), as it is now called, was in good trim, large, and well done. So was Jenny Lind, which, though late, was

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here quite up to the mark. Messrs. Schofield were second. Here was Telemachus, C.B., too pale for the northern fancy, but a fine full-sized flower; Count Pauline, C.B., also an old flower, remarkable for the purity of its white; and Hastings Rainbow, on the contrary, attractive from the richness of its pink and purple. The other noticeable flower was Lovely Ann, which, amongst the galaxy of new roses, is still a teazer. In the third stand, Mr. Peto was a high-coloured scarlet bizarre; Brierley's Music, pretty, but the white inclined to be "pinky."

The first nurseryman's stand of picotees was awarded to Mr. Keynes, and here was the incomparable Mrs. Barnard, with the attractive Victoria Regina, glorious specimens of light and heavy rose-edged picotees. Lord Nelson, heavy purple, was fine; but Countess was capital, the white so pure, with a well-defined broad band of purple. Everybody ought to grow this. In the second stand was a fine Prince Arthur, and a light-edged red, a sport from Mrs. Horner. This was a delicate and pretty thing, the margin being very lightly touched. In the third, Lady Harriet Moore, medium purple, and Prince of Wales, red, were as well done as we ever remember to have seen them.

We now had a short breathing time, before we commenced with the amateurs' stands, and we took the opportunity of examining a splendid stand of hollyhock blooms, brought from the Royal Nursery, Slough. To say they were magnificent, would only convey a faint idea of their beauty, and we do not think there was a more attractive feature in the marque, full as it was of most excellent productions. As an interlude, we will mention the names of those which struck us as being first-rate, and we would advise all our readers who admire this stately flower (and who does not?) to get them as soon as they can.

Lady Dalrymple.—Rich rose.
Poupre de Tyre.—Purple.
Queen of Roses.

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Penelope.—Deep rose.
Acme.—Marone. A splendid flower.
General Bem.—Full size, crimson scarlet. A gem.
Pillar of Beauty.—Rose, full centre, the guard petals hardly smooth enough.
Comet.—Dark crimson.
Belladonna.—Fine white. This sort comes very true from seed.
Lilac Perfection.—Extra.
Mandarin.—Orange buff.
Mrs. Foster.—Fine rose.
Triumphant.—Orange, very full centre, hiding the guard petals, which we would rather see.
Meteor.—A beautiful light crimson.
Susanna.—Rich cream colour.
Captain Peat.—Beautifully-formed, rose colour. A Scotch flower.
Eleanor.—Extra fine form, a singular mixture of buff, pink, and orange.
Yellow Model.—More buff than yellow, but distinct and good.
Duke of Wellington.—Veined puce.
Mrs. Moulding.—Extra form, cream, the margins slightly touched with pink. We understand that this flower usually comes more decided, and is a very attractive novelty.
Pow's Napoleon.—Purple, edged with white, very high centre. Beautiful.

We will now give our "notion" about the most attractive flowers in the amateurs' stands. First, Sarah Payne, a pink and purple bizarre, raised by the late Mr. Ward, of Woolwich, whose obituary will be found in this number; Ariel, rose flake, quite equal to all that has been said about it; Rembrandt, a scarlet bizarre, of large size, second to Curzon; Lord Milton, which still holds up the honour of Yorkshire; and Poor Tom, a singular name, but a first-rate flower, one of Mr. May's rose flakes. In the second, Falconbridge, a pink and purple, was conspicuous; Ariel, again good; Simpson's Queen Victoria, finely marked, but it had been dreadfully teazed with the tweezers. In the third, Lord Rancliffe, in the best character we probably ever saw it, the white good, and very finely marked. This flower was also selected as the best carnation in the exhibition. Hardman's Splendid, a crimson bizarre, but

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late, was in best character; Curzon was small, but good; and Firebrand, S.F., was excellent. Fourth, Hughes's Sir J. Reynolds, heavy pink flake, and Tybalt, a very good scarlet flake, were the best in this stand. Fifth, Mayor of Oldham, P.F., and Cradley Pet, S.F., of exquisite purity and marking, but thin, were the most noticeable. The sixth stand had no names, but there was nothing amongst them to require particular comment.

The stands of picotees were particularly good, and elicited the admiration of all who saw them. In the first, Bayley's Duke of Devonshire, a heavy purple of a pleasing shade, a noble flower; Haidee, light purple (this also gained the prize for the best picotee in the exhibition); Mrs. Norman, heavy red; and Mrs. Barnard, light rose, were the essence of refinement. In the second stand, Mrs. Norman was the worst of the twelve; but Princess Royal and Green's Queen were both fine heavy rose-edged. Third. Here was Duke of Devonshire again well done; Prince of Wales, red, excellent; whilst Venus and Gem were remarkably good. In the fourth, Lady Alice Peel, rose, was in very fine character, with a remarkably waxlike appearance. Alfred, purple, and Mrs. Norman, red, were also fine. The fifth had Enchantress (Matthews) well done, and Miss Rosa, a York flower, in fine style.

In the classes, Hoyle's Mrs. Hoyle took first and second in the heavy-edged red class. It also had a first-class certificate, which it richly deserved. It is A 1. In purple flakes, Premier took every prize, thus showing that the old flower still stands very forward; but perhaps there is less improvement in this class than any of the others. In heavy-edged roses there was also a new flower, in the way of Venus, but lighter, called Alice Hoyle, very beautiful and promising. Mr. Keynes showed Lamia, a peculiar-coloured rose-edge, a flower of good proportions, and will be very useful in stand-showing,

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where contrast is desirable. We must not omit to mention an old scarlet flake, Commander-in-Chief, raised by Wood, of Huntingdon, years ago. It was done in good style. There were but few seedlings exhibited, independent of those already named. A scarlet bizarre, which may prove a useful flower, was called Teazer. It is of the Curzon style. A crimson bizarre (Blue Peter), *blue enough.* High coloured, the white very moderate. Out of the pale of censorship.

Independent of the splendid array of carnations and picotees, there were abundance of plants to interest those who delighted in orchids and other stove plants, greenhouse and hardy ones. We were much struck with the interesting character of a number of conifera in pots, which were beautifully grown and very handsome. Exhibitions of this kind will lead to a more extensive acquaintance with this valuable tribe, and tend to their wide dissemination, and consequently to the embellishment of our parks, pleasure grounds, and other garden scenery, for which the smaller ones are adapted. There was a cypress (Cupressus Goveniana), full of berries, which was very attractive; as well as a fine plant of the Funebral cypress, about the hardiness of which there appears to be some doubt, at least in the northern counties. Juniperus dumosus was a singular close-growing variety; and Juniperus Bedfordiana remarkable for the gracefulness of its habit. It would extend our notice to too great a length to particularize every excellent and well-grown specimen; suffice it that the plants, flowers, and fruit were first-rate, the arrangements excellent, the company delighted, and the florists in high spirits. In fact, it was one of the best "nationals" that has yet been. Much of this result may be attributed to the energy, perseverance, urbanity, and untiring devotion to the interests of the society evinced by their president, John Roper, Esq., a gentleman to whom we are sure the best thanks of the floral world are eminently due,

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as well as to the secretary, Mr. Wm. Hepton, on whom devolved the greater part of the working department of this truly national and long-to-be-remembered exhibition.

FOXGLOVES AND FERNS.

I HOPE none of your readers will be offended at a paper with the above heading, for, as I have derived considerable pleasure and satisfaction from their cultivation, it is my wish that others should do the same. They are plants so intimately associated, that one is lost without the other, and who is there that has not admired them, growing side by side, in the forest wild? Who has not admired the beautiful and elegant fronds of the fern, or the gay pannicle of flowers of the foxglove? Besides they are familiarly associated with our boyish days, when we carelessly and thoughtlessly wandered over merry Sherwood Forest. Nor can we now forget them, and although far distant from home, still can we admire their beauties. Yes; and not only do we admire them ourselves, but have great pleasure in seeing others do so, through our humble endeavours. But some of your readers will exclaim, What! introduce the foxglove into a garden. Yes; and it is well worthy of it too. Examine its flowers, either beautiful purple or pure white, and see whether it is not as well worth a place as many more valued and more costly exotics. But mind, I do not wish to introduce either of them into the parterre, or the flower border. Ferns or foxgloves are not at home there—it is not their place; but put them amongst shrubs, under trees, and in every other out-of-the-way place. The light green, and elegant fronds of the latter, and the gay flowers of the former add greatly in contrast to the sombre hue of the evergreens. Foxgloves are capable of great improvement. I have for several

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years been trying the experiment of hybridizing, and am well satisfied with the results, as I can this season count no less than twelve distinct varieties. Last year, I had two plants which produced white flowers, spotted in the same manner as the dark ones, from which I have now got a quantity of seedlings, and am looking forward with considerable interest for another season's bloom. Some of your readers may say, where are we to get these things, or how must we raise them? I will tell them my plan, if it will be of any service. With the foxgloves, I collect the seed from my best varieties, which I sow in March, and as soon as the young plants are large enough, they are pricked out in beds, about four inches asunder, where they remain till winter, by which time they will have made fine plants, when they are planted singly amongst the shrubs. As the winter digging goes on, they require no further care, until flowering season, and then the only care—or call it pleasure—is to look them over, and mark the most distinct ones, to save seed from. As to the ferns, all they require is, to take a pleasant ramble through the woods, or along hedge-rows, find all the varieties you can, plant them as you would the foxgloves, in every spare corner, and they will be all right. I must beg pardon for trespassing with this subject thus far on the pages of the *Midland Florist*, but feel sure you will excuse it, as I am well convinced that every one who tries the experiment will be well satisfied, and never regret introducing foxgloves and ferns into their shrubberies.

W. S. M. M.

NOTES ON A FEW SMALL FRUITS, DURING THE SUMMER OF 1853.

CONTINUED observations incline us to place the raspberry termed the *Northumberland Fillbasket*, in the first rank. We have grown a considerable number

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of sorts this season, and certainly it beats them all. It is extremely robust in habit, and there is a peculiarity about the canes which renders them easily to be distinguished from all existing varieties. The fruit is very large, of a fine purplish red when ripe, bearing most profusely, and above all, has a most excellent flavour. It will be indispensable to every garden, however small. *Monarch* (Scalter) was originated in the neighbourhood of Exeter, and the late Mr. Loudon, on a visit to the nurseries, some years ago, mentioned the fine seedling raspberries grown there. Our opinion of this sort is more favourable this season than before. It is very conical, dark crimson purple when ripe, a very distinct colour. Its habit is branching, and it bears more than any other. It is, however, rather acid; still, it is firm in texture, not easily crushing, and therefore well adapted for market purposes. *Walker's Dulcis* must still hold the first place for flavour. It is of medium size, bright red, firm, and bears well. As a red dessert raspberry, this will prove a great acquisition. The flavour has been highly approved of by all who have tasted it. (Henderson) is a variety with large seeds, having the appearance of a mulberry. It is a showy prolific kind, rather acid, but, as we have only fruited one plant, we must, if nothing unforseen prevent us, report more fully on its merit another season.

In gooseberries, *London* stands pre-eminent for size, whilst a variety called *Lord Middleton*, originated in this neighbourhood, is considered to be the best for cropping, flavour, and appearance, of any which have been raised of late years.

We have fruited the *Striped White Currant* from Germany, this season, and it really is very pretty and distinct. Imagine white currants, with flakes or stripes of scarlet on them, and then you have its character. The berries, however, are not so large as the white Dutch.

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Part II.

NEW PLANTS.

—◆—

BEADNELL'S SEEDLING PEAR.—One of the most juicy and melting pears known. It bears most profusely, is of medium size, and ripens the end of September.

The following new strawberries are highly spoken of, but we have not seen the fruit:—

Nicholson's Fillbasket.—An excellent market variety, large, fine scarlet colour, and a very great bearer.

Nicholson's Captain Cook has a similar character with the above.

Myatt's Cinquefolia had a certificate of merit awarded to it at the Horticultural Society's rooms, on the 26th of July last. It is a fine large sort, and of good flavour.

THE DUNMORE PLUM (we had it as the *Dummer*, a wrong name) was raised by the late Andrew Knight, Esq. It is hardy, and bears well as a standard, coming after Coe's Golden Drop. It is extremely rich and sugary, so much so that it shrivels up and dries like a preserved prune.

NEW ANNUALS, which have bloomed in the gardens of the Horticultural Society of London:—

Nolana Grandiflora Alba.—This is said to contrast well with the old blue variety,

Schizanthus Violaceus.—Distinct.

S. Mistanthe Pedunculata, with brick-red Alonsoa-like flowers.

Gillia, a species with lead-coloured flowers, which are larger and finer than Capitata.

Collinsia Bartsiæfolia.—A species with the appearance of C. bicolor, but much more dwarf.

The Crimson Flax, which is of a delicate habit, is the most brilliant plant.

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THE PURPLE-LEAVED MEZEREON has proved itself, this season, a very interesting plant, the foliage being quite as dark as the purple beech.

ILEX NOBELIS appears to be much like I. Sheppardii, with broad very dark green foliage.

ILEX MICOROCARPA has oval foliage, perfectly smooth, and will undoubtedly make a fine ornamental evergreen.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

GERANIUMS AND PETUNIAS.—R. D.—The geraniums were fallen to pieces, but the petals appeared of good colours. The petunias, some half-dozen of which would improve the most select collection, were very handsome, but as they were not numbered, we have no means of reference.

PARKER'S GLORY CRIMSON BIZARRE CARNATION.—We think your flower very fine. Large, stout petals, and pure white. Should be grown.

SWEETWILLIAMS.—I. H.—Yours are a great advance in this beautiful flower, combining smoothness of petal, with rotundity of outline. The colours are distinct. In fact, they are the best we have ever seen.

SCARLET FLAKE CARNATION.—J. B., *Derby*.—A very fine flower, beautifully ribboned, full size, petals gently cupped, one of the best. Let us have its name. The crimson bizarre has not sufficient white in it. The petal, however, is stout and good. Try this again. *Rembrandt*, scarlet bizarre, of large size, well crowned. This will stand forward in its class.

CARNATIONS.—W. H.—Your rose flake, No. 1, is pretty, the white pure and ribboning distinct. The scarlet bizarre partakes largely of the character of its parent, Admiral Curzon. No. 3, of the same colour, will not do. The scarlet flake is also well marked. In fact, they are all, except No. 3, promising flowers.

The purple picotee, *Eliza*, from Oxford, has very fine guard petals, and is well laced with a narrow margin of purple. The centres of the blooms sent appeared somewhat confused, but when well done, we have no doubt it will take a prominent place in its class.

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FUCHSIAS.—R. S.—The seedling like Nil Desperandum (called *Junius*), is no improvement on that variety, and therefore, comparatively speaking, of no use. There are such a lot of this colour, that some stand ought to be made against such a flood of them breaking in on us. We want more novelty.

W. M.—We like your seedling, *Mars*, a little better. The colour is new, but the sepals are too narrow. Send us a few more blooms, these were crushed. Put them into a tin box, instead of a paper one.

J. S.—Your purple flake is high coloured and well ribboned. We do not think, however, that the white is quite so good as it may be in more favourable seasons. The scarlet bizarre will be a sort. There are some good properties about it, which good growing will more strongly develope.

SCHOFIELD AND SON.—*Uncle Tom* (Binns), R.F., a well-marked fine flower; white clear, and colour cheerful; petal broad and well shaped. In the state received, too much shrivelled up to pass an opinion on its form, but so far as we can judge, a very promising variety. *Zanga* (Chapman), P.F., a well-marked fine-petalled flower; colour well distributed, and edges smooth. Very desirable, apparently. Like many others which we receive by post, the flower was so much crushed, that it is impossible for us to speak of its form. Had any petals been extracted from the centre?

Our friends should put their specimens on cards which extend some distance beyond the edge of the petal. Through neglecting this, the edges are extremely frayed, and it is almost impossible to speak with any confidence on the merits of the flower.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

A LETTER, signed James Houlker, Blackburn, appeared in your last number, which, if not contradicted, is calculated to injure my character. It states that I was expelled the show, in consequence of showing a flower contrary to rule. I beg to state that such is not the case. Never have I heard of such a thing before; and since the above letter appeared, I have seen some of the members of the show, and having mentioned the subject, have met with only one reply, namely, "I have never heard of such a thing before." As to the disputed flower, I beg to say, it is not a Triomphe Royale. I have pointed out Mason's Matilda many a time since to my neighbours, and all agree that it is distinct. Also Mr. John Slater, one of the judges on the

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occasion, still maintains that it was not a Triomphe Royale. I have many other very strong reasons for acting as I have done, but as I do not like disputes, I intend to let all drop in future; though I intend to send you the root, purposely to be proved.

THOMAS CHIPPENDALE.

Tottleworth, near Blackburn, August 14, 1853.

BEDDING ROSES.

ONE of the first essentials in a bedding rose is that it should stand well up on its foot-stalk. For a pole or climber, the reverse of this would, of course, be the most graceful; one is to be looked down *upon*, the other *up at*. If this is remembered, the value of such qualities, in their respective adaptations, will at once be recognized. However abundant or prolonged a bloomer a rose may be, if it droops its flowers, half its effect in a bed is entirely lost; and if a shower of rain fall, the accumulated moisture, acting by its weight on the feeble foot-stalk, increases the evil. A bed of such roses can never give satisfaction. Scrambling roses, to be pegged down during their season of growth, do not make the kind of effect in beds that one would wish. I would have all worked plants, selecting them with different heights of stock, to suit the different position in planting; the dwarfer on the outside, the taller in the centre. I should not expect great results the first season of planting. During that period, I should have an eye to the formation of the head, endeavouring to extend it horizontally as much as possible. When once the surface of the bed becomes overarched with good flower-bearing wood, and the luxuriance of the plants is checked, supposing the kind of roses to be suitable, nothing in the way of massing could be more beautiful. This may be inferred from the effects of a single head of a free-blooming standard of any kind. To get good beds, some little time must be consumed in the preparation. One must not be impatient.

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Young and luxuriant plants will never realize all that is expected of them. But there is no reason why the necessary preparation should take place in the flower garden. The reserve-ground is the proper place for preparation, and roses may be prepared there as well as in the beds in which they are to flower. Suppose two seasons' probationary treatment is required, they can there be attended to, and transplanted in full condition to their allotted beds in the garden. To treat roses as ordinary bedding plants, and selecting from them at random, must ever end in partial disappointment; and from not giving the subject due consideration, and taking the necessaray precautions, doubtless arises most of the disappointment in this branch af gardening.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

GEACH'S SELF-ACTING FUMIGATOR.

[*From the Gardeners' Chronicle.*]

It has hitherto been our practice to destroy greenfly by blowing the bellows, to raise smoke, from an old cracked saucepan, an old sand riddle, a flower pot, or the like, filled with tobacco fuel in its least attractive forms. A fine calm evening is selected for a smoking night, and the operator, with a cloth tied over his mouth, lies down flat on the floor of the house to be smoked, the filthy pot being only the length of the bellows from his nose, and there he has to puff away and remain until the smoke begins to descend to the floor, and the gust, thick and foul, gets to his lungs, when he has to grope for the door, or be carried out by his companions. Such is a fair sample of the process of smoking moderate-sized houses; but in the case of large conservatories, it is a still more serious affair, and only old hands, habitual smokers, dare attempt such a task, since an hour or two of stifling poison is not a safe dose for every

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constitution. Still the deed must be done; for it is a point of the very highest importance to horticulture that greenfly should not be spared. Invention has been racked to get rid of the smoking nuisance, and the following account of a self-acting fumigator, which I saw at work, on the 8th of June, at Plymouth, will be hailed with pleasure by those who have had to be present at a few smokings on a large scale. The machine is substantially made of copper, and consists of two parts, the fire box and the blower; but for the sake of simplicity, and to appeal to ideas already established in the minds of gardeners, I will endeavour to explain it as divided into three parts: the first being the ball of the pipe, or hopper, containing the ignited tobacco; the second part seems little else than the common wheel bellows or blower, already well known in every garden, and to be seen in most of the seedsmen's windows, painted green, with a mahogany wheel; the third, being the driving apparatus, seems akin to the common bottle-jack that is to be seen in the ironmongers' shops, or on active service in the tradesman's kitchen. These three parts, neatly arranged and put together, constitute the self-acting fumigator, manufactured by Mr. Geach, of 39, York-street, Plymouth. They are made of three sizes: the largest runs half an hour, and costs fifty shillings; the second size runs for a shorter period, and costs thirty shillings; and the smallest size costs only twenty shillings. The air which feeds the bellows is sucked from the hopper containing the tobacco, and therefore there is less risk of sparks or flame than there would be if the smoke came direct from the fuel to the plants. This is important where amateurs or others might be using curtains to smoke roses or other plants out of doors. The largest-sized machine, including the fire box and connecting tube, is not larger than a hat box, consequently the thing is admirably adapted to the limited space of pits and frames.

A. FORSYTH, *St. Mary's Church, Torquay.*

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THE RED SPIDER.—Of all the pests the grape grower has to contend with, perhaps there is none so destructive as the above-named insect; it revels in a dry atmosphere, and many are the crops of fruit which I have seen seriously injured by its ravages. I have had my houses attacked, but I did not wait for their increase, but immediately adopted those means which speedily rid me of the enemy. My plan (perhaps well known to scientific gardeners, but perhaps unknown to many of your readers) was this: I procured half-a-peck of lime, which I slacked in a bucket of water; to this I added two pounds of sulphur in powder, and stirred it well up till it became of the consistence of thin whitewash. I then applied it with a common whitewash brush to the flues, and though the fumes were far from agreeable, I beat off the invaders, and my vines soon showed the effects of the application, by their improvement.—W. S.

THE ORCHIS.—How interesting, not to say beautiful, are our British varieties. Truly, they may not compete in splendour with their foreign relatives, from the warmer parts of the globe, still, in the shady wood, or the chalk bank, I have been delighted with the Bee orchis, and that diminutive and singular variety the O. muscifera, or Fly orchis. I have endeavoured to cultivate these two varieties in pots, and have to a certain extent succeeded. The soil I use is a medium hazel loam, to which I have added one-sixth part chalk. I wish some of your readers would send word whether they succeed well with them in a similar compost, and in what locality I should be likely to meet with the following:—Spiranthus autumnalis, Orchis latifolia, Orchis fusca, Ophrys aranifera, and Orchis pyramidalis.—AN OXONIAN.

HARDY YUCCAS.—Few plants are more ornamental than these, and from their rigid and singlar growth, form, either in bloom or out, an attractive feature

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on the lawn, the flower border, or on rock-work. In looking over a late volume of your periodical, I find a question asked as to their mode of culture, &c. My plan has been to place them on a sandy border, made expressly for them, the soil being excavated to the depth of two feet, a portion of lime rubbish and broken brick placed therein, to the depth of six inches, and then filled up with decayed leaves and river sand in equal parts, two other parts of loam being added. The varieties which do best with me are, in the first place, Yucca filamentosa, a rather dwarf-growing kind, blooming more freely than the other varieties, and propagating itself readily, by offsets from the main plant. I have a variegated one of this variety, but though I have now cultivated it ten years, it still shows no symptom of flowering; nevertheless, its foliage is so handsome, that I can well excuse this drawback on its good qualities. Yucca recurvifolia assumes quite an arborescent character with me, the stem being two feet above the ground, and as thick as a man's leg, before the foliage crowns it. This appears shy to bloom. Yucca gloriosa is beautiful in its growth, and very handsome in bloom, throwing a spike of pendent cuplike flowers, at least four feet high, though in the Birmingham Botanic Garden, I have seen it, some few years ago, much higher. I also grow a distinct sort, called glaucescens. It is of weaker habit than any of the preceding, and is chary of its flowers. At all events, the wole family are worthy of cultivation, and as such, I recommend them to your readers.—R. T., *Birmingham.*

Lilium Japonicum, var. Punctatum.—My specimens of this fine lily are just now (August 20) in their glory. I have been at considerable trouble to follow your advice, and hybridized them. This I have done by using the farina of L. umbellata, L. tigridum, and the scarlet Martagon. I have now a quantity of seedlings, raised this spring, which

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have been originated from similar crosses, and I am waiting with much anxiety for the period when they shall have attained sufficient size to flower. The operation of hybridizing is so simple, that I wonder the country does not abound in seminal varieties. I have found that early in a morning, the pointal or stigma produces a pellucid drop, of a glutinous consistency, calculated to catch and retain any farina which may happen to be floating in the atmosphere. To this stigma or pointal, when covered with this viscid matter, the farina should be applied, selecting the parent for some good quality, either richness of colour or beauty of form, when some reasonable hope may be entertained that novelty at least will be the result of the cross. I have often propagated them by planting the scales, when young bulbs generally formed at the base, and are in a few years become good flowering bulbs.—JAMES SMITH.

NEW AND SINGULAR VARIETIES OF THE COMMON YEW AND TURKEY OAK.—We are always happy to hear of ornamental or distinct plants originated from seed. Amongst others for which we have to thank the liberality of friends, is a beautiful specimen of the Turkey Oak (Quercus cerris), the leaves of which are very much like the laciniated foliage of Quercus fennessi, or perhaps more like the Fern-leaved Beech than anything. We are not aware that there is anything of the kind in existence, excepting our seedling plant, which is now eight feet high. To this we have just added, through the kindness of a friend, personally unknown to us, a very singular yew. Our friend informs us, that having sown some yew berries years ago, all the plants except one took the usual pyramidal habit of this tree. The exception adopted a different course, for its branches were spread on the surface of the ground. It is now in our possession, and certainly it is as prostrate a plant as can possibly be grown; the stem does not rise more than an inch, whilst the branches exhibit not the slightest tendency to ascend. When grafted standard high,

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on the common yew, this will, we have no doubt, make a handsome pendulous tree, a fit companion for the weeping holly and similar plants.

PROPAGATING THE CALCEOLARIA.—Among other useful hints in the *Scottish Florist*, we find the following, on propagating the calceolaria:—"About the end of August, a patch of ground was selected where the cuttings were to be planted, a hand-glass was then placed on the spot, and pressed firmly on the surface of the soil, so as to mark the size of it. Having ascertained the size of the hand-glass, the soil inside the mark was taken out to the depth of six inches, and a compost of one-third sand and two-thirds leaf mould put into its place. After giving this a gentle watering, the cuttings were planted, covered with the hand-glass, and shaded till they were thoroughly rooted; the shading was then removed, and air admitted day and night, except in the case of severe weather, when the hand-glass was kept close. They required very little water till the middle of October, at which time they were taken out of the cutting bed and potted, the largest into five-inch and the smaller into three-inch pots, using the same compost as mentioned for the cuttings." They were wintered on a shelf in the greenhouse, ten inches from the glass. In watering, care was taken not to wet the foliage, and not one in a dozen damped off.

TO PROPAGATE TALL-FLOWERING LOBELIAS.—We recollect the time when L. syphilitica and L. cardinalis were almost the only herbaceous sorts cultivated in the generality of gardens,—now there are many splendid varieties. W. G. says, in the *Scottish Florist*, that the following is an excellent way to propagate them:—"The best time to put in cuttings is in autumn. This should be done as early as possible, to give time to have them well rooted before winter. There are generally plenty of shoots to be had from the bottom of the stem, but if the kind is scarce, the flower stem may be cut into pieces, every

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joint will grow, if there is a leaf attached to it. The cuttings should be allowed to lie for a short time, to dry up the milky juice; in this way they will not be so apt to damp. The pot should be well drained, and filled to about an inch of the surface with light rich compost. Fill up the remainder with sharp sand, press it level, and give a gentle watering. Plant the cuttings round the edge of the pots, give a slight watering, to settle the soil, and let them stand a short time to dry; then plunge the pots in a gentle bottom heat, when the cuttings will soon take root."

RHUBARB SHOW.—A very creditable show of rhubarb, cottage-grown greenhouse plants, pansies, &c., was held at the house of Mr. Butters, the Etruria Inn, Etruria, near Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, on the 18th of June. Thomas Adams exhibited three stalks of Victoria rhubarb, taken from one root, 17lb. 11oz. weight.

1st Prize.	Thomas Adams,	Victoria	.....	6lb. 6oz.
2nd „	„	„	.....	6lb. 2oz.
3rd „	E. Finney	„	.....	5lb. 15oz.
4th „	J. Grocott	„	.....	5lb. 9½oz.
5th „	E. Finney	„	.....	5lb. 7½oz.

OBITUARY.—Died, on the 16th of July last, MR. HENRY WARD, of Bull Fields, Woolwich, Kent. He was an enthusiastic florist, and cultivated a large collection of carnations, picotees, and pinks, with great success. He originated some flowers of first-rate character, and was a kind-hearted and worthy man.

Part III.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

BEST PLANTS FOR COVERING A TRELLIS, LIGNEOUS AS WELL AS SUMMER CLIMBING.—MARY S.—We gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity of answering our fair correspondent. The former may be planted any time after the 1st of October; of course, the others in spring, after all danger of frost is over. HARDY.—*Loniceras* (Honeysuckles): Brownii, Sheppardii,

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and Japonica.—*Jasmines:* Ochraleuca, Officinalis, Revoluta, and Bignoniæfolia.—*Clematises:* Flammula, Montana, Vitacella, Double Blue, Hendersonii, Shillingii.—Aristolochia sipho, Glycine or Wistaria sinensis, and the Hop. These are all very beautiful.

SUMMER CLIMBERS.—Tropæolum Canariensis, Rhodochiton volubile, Eccremocarpos scaber, Tropæolum Triomphe de Gand, and Cobæa scandens.

BEGONIA FUCHSIOIDES.—This can be obtained of some of the leading nurserymen of the metropolis. Messrs. Henderson, Wellington-road, St. John's Wood, London. Charge, from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per plant.

PINKS.—Your query of the best twelve Lancashire pinks will be answered by the following:—

Purple-laced.	*Red-laced.*	*Black and White.*
Huntsman	Joseph Sturge	Beauty of Blackburn
Blackeyed Susan	Susanna	Beauty of Clayton
Mango	Richard Cobden	Miss Jessop
Attraction	Beauty of Deighton	Kay's Mary

Best Nine South Country Pinks.

Maclean's Criterion	Titus	Sappho
Turner's Sarah	Turner's Edgar	Turner's Phœnix
Colchester Cardinal	Whipper-in	Turner's Arthur

THE BEST SIX TULIPS WE HAVE SEEN THIS SEASON.—W. M., *Bucks.*—Your question is rather a poser; still we will look over our memoranda, and endeavour to answer it. Amongst the best were,

Feathered Bizarres.— Polyphemus, Vivid, Warden, and Willison's J. F. Wood.

Flamed Bizarres.—Sir J. Paxton, Polyphemus, Everard, and Captain White.

Feathered Roses.—Heroine, Napoleon, Kate Connor, Bion, Aglaia, and Anastasia.

Flamed Roses.—Magnificent, Aglaia, Claudiana, Lady Leicester, Catherine, and Camilla.

Feathered Byblæmens.—Chellaston Beauty, Maid of Orleans, Lady Denman, Gem, Nepaulese Prince, Rutley's Queen, and Godet Parfait.

Flamed Byblæmens.—Princess Royal, Spencer's Firstrate, and Salvator Rosa. But this class is now very strong, and we may add three others, equal, or nearly so, to the foregoing, namely, Venus, Allen's Salvator, and Queen Charlotte. And again, Lord Denman, Enchantress, Criterion, &c.

When W. M. gets these in good strain, and plenty of them, he will become a formidable competitor.

APPLES.—A NORTHERN.—If your soil is a retentive clay, where rushes grow, you must not expect to grow fruit trees well.

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It must be thoroughly drained, and then burn all the rubbish, weeds, parings of ditches, &c. This has a powerful effect on land of your description. You may then try some of the hardier apples and pears with some chance of success.

MY GARDEN.

No. IX.

My garden is looking gay with autumnal plants, the stately hollyhock and gorgeous dahlia adding materially to the splendour of the scene; scarlet geraniums, fuchsias, calceolarias, &c. giving their rich colours and graceful forms to make up the *tout ensemble*.

Now will be a good time to propagate stock of soft-wooded things, for next season. Scarlet geraniums are easily done, requiring no hand-glasses, and, from their succulency, wanting but little water. Verbenas may be taken with a small portion of root from the parent plant, and placed, six or eight, round a pint pot, using loam of a stout quality, with a small portion of sand. They stand the winter better in this than in soil of a lighter texture. Do not forget the phloxes, particularly those of the Drummondii tribe. These are lovely plants, either for pot culture or bedding. Kilburnii is a beautiful rich violet, and a fine contrast. Small shoots root readily now, and a large stock should be obtained. Our dianthuses have been very beautiful, and plants from one sowing of seed, which was made seven or eight weeks ago, are now ready to transplant. We anticipate a gorgeous show of these beauties next year, and therefore have planted out more than usual, for, independent of their fragrance and diversity of colour, there is great chance of originating something dissimilar, and the interest and enjoyment experienced by those who devote themselves to this pleasing pursuit must be felt to be appreciated. The layers of those carnations earliest put down will soon be ready to pot off, and we would rather take them when they have

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a *small starting root* than when they have made their full growth. Those which establish themselves in the pots always stand the winter best. We have just put out our best pinks, and those who have not, should do so immediately. They are fond of a stout rich soil. Autumnal planted pinks always lace best, and with the greatest delight, we have this season seen ours more than usually beautiful, by adopting this plan. Take care at the same time that a few are placed in pots, so that in the event of any loss during winter, among those on the beds, these may supply their place. This will be a grand month for dahlias, therefore every attention must be paid. They are fond of abundance of water, and being gross feeders, liquid manure, once or twice a week, will not be out of place. Make up pansy beds. The same caution will be necessary as with pinks. My autumnal roses are splendid. The lovely Geant des Batailles, on short stocks, from nine inches to a foot, planted thick, on circular beds, cut in the grass, have had, and still will have, a splendid effect, till frost robs them of their beauty. Budding may still be performed, and cuttings of Bourbon, Chinese, and hybrid perpetuals may now be put in, under hand-glasses, with success.

As for greenhouse plants, seedling cinerarias and calceolarias should now be potted off. They will require placing in a cold frame, shading, and keeping close till they are established. Geraniums should be cut down, if not already done. Mine have started nicely, consequently I have repotted them, I do not like to perform this operation till the shoots are a quarter of an inch long. As the plants are out, a general cleaning of the house should take place, and the assertion that "cleanliness is next to Godliness," which applies so truly to human beings, may, in a measure, be adopted with regard to plants, for cleanliness is a *sine qua non* to their well doing. Let painting then be attended to, the flues examined, the glass mended, &c. In fact, whilst the weather is fine, lose [illegible] opportunity of taking advantage of it.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

LOWTON TULIP GROWERS' ANNUAL MEETING.

At James Unsworth's, Queen's Arms Inn, Lanehead, Lowton, Lancashire.

1st Pan. Charles X, Polyphemus, Bienfait, Queen Adelaide, Heroine, and Unique, J. Ward. 2nd. Magnum Bonum, George IV., Lancashire Hero, Bacchus, Heroine, and Unique, J. Collier. 3rd Charles X, Lord Stanley, Mango, Wallers, Heroine, and Unique, J. Hewitt. 4th Charles X., George IV., Mango, Wurtemburg, Lady Crewe, and Unique, S Penkeman. 5th. Trafalgar, Lustre, Narene, Siam, Heroine, and Unique, W. Collier. 6th. Pass Catafalque, Lustre, Mango, Incomparable, Lady Crewe, and Unique, J. Rothwell. 7th. Charles X., Lustre, Lancashire Hero, Incomparable, Lady Crewe, and Unique, N. Talbot.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Lord Lilford, J. Ward
2 Magnum Bonum, J. Hewitt
3 Trafalgar, S. Penkeman
4 Wellington, ditto
5 Charles X., J Caldwell
6 Duc de Savoy, S Penkeman
7 Crown Prince, N. Talbot
8 Old Dutch, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre, J. Rothwell
2 Carlos, ditto
3 Lord Stanley, W. Turner
4 Pass Lacantique, J. Collier
5 Polyphemus, J. Ward
6 Albion, J. Hewitt
7 Pilot, J. Ward
8 Old Lacantique, J Rothwell

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Lancashire Hero, J. Ward
2 Mango, J. Rothwell
3 Bienfait, W. Turner
4 Grand Turk, J. Ward
5 Narene, J. Rothwell
6 Violet Winner, S. Penkeman
7 Beauty, J. Ward
8 Unknown, N. Talbot

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Queen Adelaide, J. Ward
2 Seedling, ditto
3 Bienfait ditto
4 David, J. Hewitt
5 Wallers, J. Ward
6 Siam, J. Rothwell
7 Narene, ditto
8 Queen Charlotte, J. Hewitt

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, J. Ward
2 Walworth, ditto
3 Lady Crewe, S. Penkeman
4 Comte, J. Ward
5 Dolittle, J. Collier
6 Hero of the Nile, J. Ward
7 Lady Lilford, S. Penkeman
8 Andromeda, N. Talbot

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, J. Collier
2 Vesta, J. Hewitt
3 Spencer's Brilliant, J. Collier
4 Aglaia, J. Ward
5 Walworth, J. Collier
6 Regina, W. Collier
7 Rose Ann, J. Ward
8 Triumph, J. Hewitt

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Charbonnier, J. Collier
2 Beauty of Dovedale, J. Ward

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Godet Parfait, J. Rothwell
2 Van Amburgh, J. Ward

Rose Breeders.

1 Unknown, J. Caldwell
2 Newcastle, ditto

RICHARD PRESCOTT'S TULIP MEETING.

May 31.

Maiden Pan.—Charles X., Lustre, Mango, Siam, Heroine, and Unique, T. Hardman.

1st Pan. Charles X., Lustre, Seedling, Wallers, Heroine, and Unique, R. Ratcliffe. 2nd. Charles X., Albion, Baguet, Siam, Heroine, and Unique, W. Leather. 3rd. Crown Prince, Charbonnier, Bienfait, Bienfait, Heroine, and Unique, R. Mort. 4th. Charles X.. Albion, Washington, Baguet, Lady Crewe, and Unique, J. Thompson. 5th. Cat, George IV., Baguet, Wallers, Heroine, and Ponceau, R. Prescott. 6th, George IV., George IV., Mango, Incomparable, Duc de Bronte, and Triumph.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., W. Leather
2 Lord Lilford, ditto
3 Crown Prince, R. Ratcliffe
4 Magnum Bonum, R. Mort
5 Catafalque, W. Leather

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6 Duc de Savoy, R. Prescott
7 Wellington, R. Hindley
8 Seedling, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre, T. Hardman
2 Don Cossack, R Ratcliffe
3 Polyphemus, ditto
4 Surpass Lacantique, J. Thompson
5 San Joe, R. Ratcliffe
6 Dutch Catafalque, R. Prescott
7 George IV., ditto
8 Albion, T. Hardman

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe
2 Bienfait, W. Leather
3 Washington, T. Hardman
4 La Belle Narene, R. Mort
5 Baguet, R. Ratcliffe
6 Lancashire Hero, W. Leather
7 Mungo, R. Mort
8 Antony, R. Prescott

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Siam, R. Ratcliffe
2 Wallers, T. Hardman
3 Adelaide, W Leather
4 Queen Charlotte, J. Thompson
5 Blanche Violet, R. Ratcliffe
6 Sable Rex, R. Mort
7 Bienfait, R. Hindley
8 Unknown, J. Thompson

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, R. Prescott
2 Walworth, W. Leather
3 Andromeda, ditto
4 Comte, R. Mort
5 Dolittle, W. Leather
6 Lady Crewe, R Prescott
7 Aglaia, W. Leather
8 Hero of the Nile, R. Prescott

Flamed Roses.

1 Camillus, R. Ratcliffe
2 Triumph, R. Mort
3 Aglaia, R. Ratcliffe
4 Rose Unique, R. Hindley
5 Ponceau Brilliant, R. Mort
6 Guerrier, R. Ratcliffe
7 Rose Vesta, R. Hindley
8 Roi de Cerise, R. Mort

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Lord Lilford, R. Ratcliffe
2 Polyphemus, R. Prescott
3 Linnæus, R. Ratcliffe
4 Seedling, R. Mort

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Queen of the North, R. Mort
2 Unknown, R. Prescott
3 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe
4 Flora, ditto

Rose Breeders.

1 Village Maid, R. Prescott
2 Unknown, ditto
3 Lilford, ditto
4 Catherina, ditto

TULIP SHOW,

At the Snipe Inn, Manchester-road, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, June 3.

Judges.—Mr. W. H. Audenshaw, Ashton; Mr. G. Holland, Stockport; and Mr. J. Boardman, Blackley.

Maiden Prizes.—1. Comte de Vergennes, J Hilton. 2. Dixon's Queen Eleanor, J. Warrin. 3. Sidney Smith, W. Butterworth.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Abercromby, J. Dicken
2 Charles X., ditto
3 Cotterell's Elizabeth, W. Waller
4 Magnum Bonum, A. Leech
5 Surpass Catafalque, W. Chadwick
6 Duke of Wellington, W Waller
7 Duc de Savoy, G. Chadwick
8 Rising Sun, T. Schofield

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe (premier flame), J. Dicken
2 Polyphemus, A. Leech
3 Lustre, J Yarwood
4 Seedling, J. Moss
5 William Tell (seedling), A. Leech
6 Cyclops, J Wild
7 Albion, J. Moss
8 Surpass Catafalque, J. Yarwood

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Lancashire Hero (pr. fe.), J. Newton
2 Bienfait, A. Leech
3 Baguet, G. Wild
4 Gibbons's Sir H. Pottinger, J. Dicken
5 Grotius, W. Waller
6 Ashtonian, J. Yarwood
7 Catherina, W. Waller
8 Louis XVI., W. Chadwick

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Queen Adelaide, J. Newton
2 Sable Rex, G Chadwick
3 Incomparable, S. Stopford
4 Violet Wallers, A. Leech
5 Czarinne, W. Waller
6 Bacchus, W. Chadwick
7 La Belle Narene, J. Newton
8 Pyramid d'Egypt, J. Dicken

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, J. Moss
2 Comte de Vergennes, J. Hilton
3 Lady Crewe, G. Davies
4 Walworth, S. Stopford
5 Queen Eleanor, J. Warren
6 Dolittle, J. Moss
7 Hero of the Nile, W. Chadwick
8 Duchess of Newcastle, J. Wild

Flamed Roses.

1 Vainqueur, J. Dicken
2 Rose Unique, ditto
8 Rose Vesta, J. Yarwood
4 Lady Crewe, J. Dicken
5 Aglaia, A. Leech
6 Triomphe Royale, J. Dicken
7 Lord Hill, J. Moss
8 Rose Camillus, J. Wild

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Bizarre Breeders.
1 Earl Radnor, J. Wild
2 Seedling, A. Leech
3 Unknown, J. Dicken
4 Andrew Marvel, J. Yarwood
5 Seedling, J. Wild
6 Ditto, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Catherina, A. Leech
2 Godet Parfait, J. Wild
3 L'Elegant, ditto
4 Verpoort, J. Yarwood
5 Ashtonian, J. Katt
6 Princess Royal, T. Schofield

Rose Breeders
1 Lord Derby, J. Newton
2 Lady Crewe, W. Chadwick
3 Lady Stanley, H. B. Cawburn
4 Duchess of Newcastle, J Dicken
5 Princess Sophia, A. Leech
6 Andromeda, S. Stopford

White Selfs.
1 White Flag, W. Butterworth
2 White Perfection

Yellow Selfs.
1 Min d'Or, H. B. Cawburn
2 Stadtholder, J. Wild

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. Smith's, General Wolfe, North-gate, Blackburn, June 4.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Duke of Lancaster, R. Haworth
2 Catafalque Superior, ditto
3 Wellington, H. Ashworth
4 Waterloo, I. Bradley
5 Lord Lilford, T. Hollingworth
6 Truth, I. Bradley

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Duke of Lancaster, I. Bramley
2 Charbonnier, R. Haworth
3 Lustre, ditto
4 Albion, H. Ashworth
5 Pilot, I. Bradley
6 Abercromby, R. Haworth

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, H. Ashworth
2 Lewold, I. Tomlinson
3 Buckley's Beauty. R. Haworth
4 Catherine, I. Bramley
5 Baguet, R. Haworth
6 Louis XVI., I. Tomlinson

FlamedB yblœmens.
1 Prince Elie, R. Haworth
2 Barneveldt, ditto
3 Siam, T, Hollingworth
4 Incomparable, W. B. Fairbrother
5 La Belle Narene, ditto
6 Hepworth, I. Bradley

Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Crewe, R. Haworth
2 La Belle Nannette, I. Bramley
3 Comte de Vergennes, R. Haworth
4 Kate Connor, ditto
5 Dolittle, I. Bradley
5 Brulante Eclatante, ditto

Flamed Roses.
1 La Vandicken, R. Haworth
2 Aglaia, I. Bradley
3 Unique. I. Bramley
4 Triomphe Royale, ditto
5 Roi de Cerise, H. Ashworth
6 Lady Crewe, I. Bramley

Breeders.
Beauty of Dovedale (bizarre), T. Hollingworth
Sir H. Pottinger (byblœmen), ditto
Kate Connor (rose), R. Haworth

Selfs.
1 White Perfection, R. Haworth
2 Min d'Or, I. Bradley

TULIP SHOW,

At the Lomax Arms Inn, Great Harwood, June 4.

Extra Premier.—Charles X., T. Gibson.

Premiers.—Charles X, T. Chippendale. Pilot, T. Whalley. Bienfait, J Birtwistle. Bienfait, R. Birtwistle. Lady Crewe, E. Hodgson. Rose Unique, J. Baron. Charles X., T. Gibson.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Charles X., T. Gibson
2 Trafalgar, ditto
3 Duke of Wellington, R. Birtwistle
4 Waterloo, T. Chippendale
5 Paganini, E. Hodgson
6 Truth, ditto
7 Earl of Surrey, T. Chippendale

Flamed Bizarres.
1 San Joe, T. Gibson
2 Polyphemus, E. Hodgson
3 La Grand, G. Baron
4 Albion, T. Chippendale
5 Lustre R. Birtwistle
6 Charles X., J. Baron
7 Pilot, T. Chippendale

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, T. Whalley
2 La Belle Narene, R. Birtwistle
3 Mango, ditto
4 Tout, ditto
5 Duc de Bordeaux, E Hodson
6 Incomparable, T. Whalley
7 Lewold, T. Chippendale

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Pucella, R. Birtwistle
2 Bienfait, T. Chippendale
3 La Belle Narene, T. Whalley
4 Grotius, T. Chippendale
5 Criterion, E. Hodgson
6 Incomparable, T. Whalley
7 General Barneveldt, T. Chippendale

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Feathered Roses.
1 La Belle Nannette, T. Chippendale
2 Lady Crewe, ditto
3 Andromeda, R. Birtwistle
4 Hero of the Nile, T. Gibson
5 Newcastle, E. Hodgson
6 Hero of the Nile, T. Gibson
7 Comte, T. Chippendale

Flamed Roses.
1 Newcastle, R. Birtwistle
2 Rose Unique, ditto
3 Alexander du Roy, T. Whalley
4 Aglaia, T. Gibson
5 Lady Crewe, T. Chippendale
6 La Vandicken, T. Gibson
7 Lady Suffield, T. Whalley

Breeders.
1 Kate Connor, T. Chippendale
2 Atlas, T. Gibson
3 Maid of Orleans, R. Birtwistle

Selfs.
1 Min d'Or, T. Gibson
2 White Perfection, J. Baron

THE HUDDERSFIELD PANSY SOCIETY

Held their annual show, at the Albert Hotel, New-street, on Saturday, June 4, when the following prizes were awarded :—

Twelve Blooms.—1. Duke of Norfolk, Duke of Perth, Robert Burns, Queen of England, Elegant, Jullien, Aurora, Turner's Gem, Fair Flora, Royal Visit, Diadem and France Cycole, J. Jackson, Deighton. 2. Duke of Norfolk, Mountain Maid, Aurora, seedling, France Cycole, Robert Burns, seedling, Queen of England, two seedlings, Duke of Perth, and Seedling Yellow, J. Moorhouse.

Six Blooms.—1. Hector, Duke of Perth, Masterpiece, France Cycole, California, and Mr. Beck, J. Netherwood, 2. Elegant, Duke of Perth, France Cycole, Queen of England, Diadem, and Climax, J Jackson.

Yellow Ground.
1 Diadem, J. Jackson
2 Seedling, J. Moorhouse

Light Ground.
1 Queen of England, J. Jackson
2 Aurora, ditto

Light Selfs.
1 Seedling (yellow), J. Moorhouse
2 California, J. Netherwood

Dark Selfs.
1 Duke of Perth, J. Moorhouse
2 Duke of Perth, F. Berry

Seedlings
1 Yellow self, J. Moorhouse
2 Yellow ground, F. Berry

Judges.—Messrs. J. Jenkinson and D. Jessop.

TULIP SHOW,

At the House of E. Wade, Longton, Staffordshire, June 11.

Premier Prizes.—1. Competitor, A. Shaw. 2. Surpass Cat, T. Hollins. 3. Charles X., E. Poulson. 4. Chellaston, T. Cooper.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Magnum Bonum, T. Hollins
2 Surpass Cat, A. Shaw
3 Rufus, T. Hollins
4 Charles X, ditto
5 Charles X., A. Shaw
6 Competitor, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Polyphemus, E. Poulson
2 Surpass Cat, T. Cooper
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Sidney, ditto
5 Victory, A. Shaw
6 Polyphemus, T. Hollins

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Washington, T. Hollins
2 Chellaston, A. Shaw
3 Monarch, T. Cooper
4 Rob Roy, E. Poulson
5 Monarch, ditto
6 La Belle, T. Hollins

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Chellaston, A. Shaw
2 Princess Royal, T. Hollins
3 Prince Albert, T. Cooper
4 Chellaston, A. Shaw
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Ditto, ditto

Feathered Roses.
1 Heroine, A. Shaw
2 Duchess of Sutherland, ditto
3 Unknown, T. Hollins
4 Triomphe Royale, A. Shaw
5 Duchess of Sutherland
6 Hero of the Nile, T. Cooper

Flamed Roses.
1 Aglaia, T. Hollins
2 Lady Wilmot, A. Shaw
3 Andromeda, ditto
4 Triomphe Royale, T. Cooper
5 Alexander du Roy, A. Shaw
6 Lord Hill, T. Hollins

Breeders.
Charles X., T. Hollins
Lord Vernon, ditto
Anastasia, T. Cooper

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TULIP SHOW,

At G. Davis's, Crow Thorn, Ashton-under-Line, Lancashire, June 11.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Lord Lilford, W. Chadwick
2 Magnum Bonum, J. Nailor
3 Charles X., J. Nott
4 Surpass Catafalque, J. Wild
5 Prime Minister, ditto
6 Polyphemus, A. Tomlinson
7 Firebrand, John Knott
8 Crown Prince, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, W. Chadwick
2 Albion, E. Yates
3 Pilot, J. Newton
4 Pass Catafalque, J. Yarwood
5 Lustre de Beauty, J. Newton
6 Abercromby, W. Chadwick
7 Charles X., J. Yarwood
8 Crown Prince, J. Moss

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfeit, J. Nailor
2 Lancashire Hero, E. Yates
3 Gibbons, John Knott
4 La Belle Narene, E. Yates
5 Baguet, ditto
6 Grotius, J. Wild
7 Catherina, W. Chadwick
8 Maid of Orleans, J Wild

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Queen Charlotte, E. Yates
2 Prince Ely, W. Chadwick
3 Magnus, J. Wild
4 La Belle Narene, E. Yates
5 Bienfait, W. Chadwick
6 Countess of Liverpool, ditto
7 Lord Vernon, W. Hall
8 Roi de Siam, W. Chadwick

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, E. Yates
2 Lady Crewe, J. Naylor
3 Bion, W. Chadwick
4 Anastasia, J. Nailor
5 Hero of the Nile, W. Chadwick
6 Lady Grey, J. Yarwood
7 Lady Ashley, W. Chadwick
8 Dolittle, J. Knott

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, E. Yates
2 Aglaia, W. Chadwick
3 Guerrier, E. Yates
4 Anastasia, W. Chadwick
5 Unique, W. Wooller
6 Vainqueur, John Knott
7 Vandicken, J. Mather
8 Eliza Cook, W. Chadwick

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Surpass Catafalque, W. Chadwick
2 Northern Hero, ditto
3 Canova, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Countess of Harrington, W. Chadwick
2 Gibbons, J. Knott
3 Gibbons, J. Yarwood

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Stanley, H. Cawburn
2 Lady Crewe, J. Knott
3 Newcastle, W. Chadwick

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, W. Chadwick

TULIP SHOW,

At the house of T. Smith, the Petres' Arms, Holt Mill, June 11.

Best Bloom of any Colour.—Charles X., T. Gibson,

Feathered Bizarres.

Premier.—Charles X., T. Chippendale
1 Charles X., T. Gibson
2 Seedling, J. Houlker
3 Paganini, E. Hodgson
4 Catafalque Superior, J. Houlker
5 Trafalgar, T. Gibson
6 Truth, E. Hodgson
7 Wellington, R. Birtwistle

Flamed Bizarres.

Premier.—Charbonnier, J. Houlker
1 Paganini, T. Gibson
2 Abercromby, J. Houlker
3 Charbonnier, T. Chippendale
4 Polyphemus, J. Houlker
5 Pilot, T. Whalley
6 Charles X., ditto
7 Lustre, ditto

Feathered Byblœmens.

Premier.—La Belle Narene, R. Birtwistle
1 La Belle Narene, R. Birtwistle
2 Lord Rancliffe, J. Houlker
3 Buckley's Beauty, ditto
4 Bienfait, T. Whalley
5 Mango, R. Birtwistle
6 Grace Darling, J. Houlker
7 Ambassador, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

Premier.—Pucella de Dork, T. Whalley
1 Pucella, T. Whalley
2 Bienfait, E. Hodgson
3 Roi de Siam, T. Chippendale
4 Queen of the North, J. Houlker
5 Grace Darling, ditto
6 La Belle Narene, R. Birtwistle
7 Criterion, E. Hodgson

Feathered Roses.

Premier.—Hero of the Nile, R. Holden
1 Hero of the Nile, T. Gibson
2 La Belle Nannette, J. Houlkre
3 Lady Crewe, T. Chippendale
4 Comte de Vergennes, E. Hodgson
5 Newcastle, ditto
6 Lady Grey, ditto
7 Dolittle, T. Whalley

Flamed Roses.

Premier.—Unique, E. Hodgson
1 Triomphe Royale, J. Houlker

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2 Guerrier, J. Houlker
3 Unique, T. Chippendale
4 Aglaia, T. Gibson
5 Alexander du Roy, J. Houlker
6 Vesta, T. Gibson
7 Lady Crewe, T. Chippendale

Breeders.

1 Standard of Perfection, J. Houlker
2 Sir Roger de Coverley, T. Gibson
3 Kate Connor, T. Chippendale

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Houlker
2 Cotherstone, T. Chippendale

TULIP SHOW,

At the Woodman Inn, Middleton, Lancashire.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Surpass Catafalque, J. Smithies
2 Charles X., J. Ashworih
3 Waterloo, J. Heap
4 Magnum Bonum, S. Barlow
5 Leopoldina, J. Heap
6 Crown Prince, S. Barlow
7 Black Prince, J. Heap
8 Seedling, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre, J. Ashton
2 San Joe, J. Lunn
3 Charles X., J Smithies
4 Albion, J. Ashton
5 Shakspere, J. Smithies
6 Surpass Lacantique, S. Barlow
7 Surpass Catafalque, J. Smithies
8 Waterloo, J. Heap

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, S. Barlow
2 Democrat, J. Smithies
3 Lancashire Hero, J. Heap
4 Lady Flora, J. Ashton
5 Surpassant, S. Barlow
6 Mango, J. Smithies
7 Grotius, J. Ashworth
8 Seedling, J. Ashton

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Smithies
2 Atlas, ditto
3 Grand Cid, ditto
4 Gibbons's Harriet, ditto
5 Roi de Siam, ditto
6 Diana Bruin, J. Ashton
7 Sable Rex, J. Morton
8 Violet a Fond Noir, J. Ashworth

Feathered Roses.

1 Andromeda, J. Smithies
2 Seedling, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Dolittle, S. Barlow
5 Lady Crewe, ditto
6 Comte, J. Lunn
7 Lord Hill, J. Smithies
8 Unknown, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, J. Smithies
2 Vesta, J. Heap
3 Triomphe Royale, J. Smithies
4 Fairy Queen, ditto
5 Anacreon, J. Heap
6 Lady Crewe, J. Smithies
7 Lord Hill, ditto
8 Unique, J. Heap

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Shakspere, S Barlow
2 Duke of Hamilton, J. Smithers
3 Polyphemus ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Seedling, J. Ashton
2 Unknown, S. Barlow
3 Gibbons, J. Clegg

Rose Breeders.

1 Andromeda, J. Smithies
2 Newcastle, ditto
3 Lady Crewe, ditto

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Ashton
2 White Flag, J. Ashworth

LEVENSHULME TULIP SHOW.

Near Stockport.

Maiden Prize.—Rising Sun and Unique, E. Winders.

1st Kettle.—Heroine and Unique, A. Tomlinson. 2nd. Rising Sun and Unique, E. Winders. 3rd. Polyphemus and Bienfait, W. Whittaker. 4th. Surpass Catafalque and Lustre, E. Wood. 5th. Rising Sun and Heroine, W. Crossley. 6th. Comte and Unique, E. Cash.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Rising Sun, A. Tomlinson
2 Duc de Savoy, W. Whittaker
3 Surpass Catafalque, W. Crossley
4 Charles X., E. Wood
5 Magnum Bonum, A. Tomlinson
6 Wellington, W. Crossley

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre, W. Crossley
2 Charbonnier, E. Winders
3 San Joe, W. Crossley
4 Lacantique, W. Whittaker
5 Old Sam, A. Tomlinson
6 Charles X., A. Tomlinson

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Mango, E. Winders
2 Ambassador, A. Tomlinson
3 Baguet, W. Crossley
4 No. 46, A. Tomlinson
5 La Belle Narene, ditto
6 Tout, E. Wood

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Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Roi de Siam, W. Whittaker
2 Sable Rex, L. Tomlinson
3 La Belle Narene, ditto
4 Vulcan, E. Winders
5 Baguet, E. Wood
6 Wallers, A. Tomlinson

Feathered Roses.
1 Comte, W. Whittaker
2 Lady Crewe, A. Tomlinson
3 Newcastle, ditto
4 Heroine, E. Winders
5 Unknown, A. Tomlinson
6 Walworth, W. Crossley

Flamed Roses.
1 Aglaia, A. Tomlinson
2 Lady Crewe, ditto
3 Unique, E. Cash
4 Triomphe Royale, A. Tomlinson
5 Lord Hill, W. Crossley
6 Comte, W. Whittaker

Breeders.
Polyphemus, W. Crossley
Gibbons, A. Tomlinson
Newcastle, ditto

Selfs.
Min d'Or, E. Winders
White Flag, A. Tomlinson

PINK SHOW,

At the Lomax Arms, Great Harwood, July 9.

Premier.—Kay's Mary, R. Narris.

Purple-laced.
1 Duke of St. Albans, J. Lightbound
2 Seedling, R. Narris
3 Blackeyed Susan, T. Chippendale
4 Huntsman, ditto
5 Seedling, R. Narris
6 Mango, J. Lightbound
7 Elias, ditto

Red-laced.
1 Joseph Sturge, J. Lightbound
2 Sir William, ditto
3 Dr. Hepworth, T. Chippendale
4 Lady Antrobus, Charnley
5 William Tell, W. Wilkinson
6 Richard Cobden, R. Narris
7 Susanna, W. Wilkinson

Black and White.
1 Beauty of Blackburn, W. Wilkinson
2 Beauty of Home, J. Lightbound
3 Snowball, ditto
4 Susan, T. Chippendale
5 Margaret, J. Lightbound
6 Virgin Queen, J. Narris
7 Kay's Mary, J. Lightbound

NATIONAL CARNATION AND PICOTEE SHOW.

At York, Wednesday, August 3.

Judges.—Mr. J. F. Wood, F.H.S., the Coppice, Nottingham; Mr. Charles Turner, Royal Nursery, Slough; Mr. John Holland, Bradshaw Gardens, Middleton; and Thomas Adams, Esq., Quorndon, Derbyshire.

NURSERYMEN'S CLASS.

Twelve Carnations.—1st. Mr. Keynes, of Salisbury, with Acca, Magnificent, Owen Glendower, Duke of Sutherland, Queen of Roses, Twyford Perfection, Admiral Curzon, Valentine, Jenny Lind, Lady Gardener, Beauty of Woodhouse, and Lord Lewisham. 2nd. Messrs. Schofield and Son, of Leeds, with Magnificent, Telemachus, Beauty of Woodhouse, Count Pauline, Rainbow, Paul Pry, Flora's Garland, Firebrand, Squire Trow, Admiral Curzon, Lovely Ann, and Justice Shallow. 3rd Messrs. Bainbridge and Hewison, York, with Lorenzo, Mars, Count Pauline, Harriet, Premier, William IV., Lydia, Beauty of Woodhouse, Mr Peto, Music, Paul Pry, and Enchanter.

Twelve Picotees.—1st. Mr. Keynes, with James II., Venus, Mrs. Barnard, Princess Royal, Ophelia, Alfred, Victoria Regina, Haidee, Juliet, Lord Nelson, Countess, and Grace Darling. 2nd. Messrs. Schofield and Son, with Olivia, Beatrice, Mary Ann, Portia, Prince Arthur, Mrs. Horner, Alfred, Isabella, Miss Rosa, Victoria Regina, Mary, and Ann. 3rd. Messrs. Bainbridge and Hewison, with Miss Rosa, Portia, Sir W. Middleton, No. 70 (Dodwell), Prince of Wales, Lady Harriet Moore, Elizabeth, No. 8 (Dodwell), Lady Harewood, Mrs. Barnard, Sebastian, and Mary.

PRIVATE GROWERS.

Twelve Carnations.—1st. Mr. E. S. Dodwell, of Derby, with Sarah Payne, Rembrandt (Bayley), Premier, Firebrand, Ariel, Rachel (Dodwell), Lorenzo, Lord Milton, Rachel, Lord Milton, Poor Tom, and Admiral Curzon. 2nd. Mr. Bayley, Derby, with Lord Rancliffe, Premier, Sarah Payne, Ariel, Falconbridge, Rubens (Bayley), Queen Victoria, Rachel, Admiral Curzon, Lord Milton, Firebrand, and Flora's Garland. 3rd. Mr. H. Steward, York, with Lorenzo, Lord Rancliffe, President, Harriet, Squire Trow, Africana, Lord Rancliffe, Splendid (Hardman), Admiral Curzon, Splendid (Hardman), Firebrand, and Admiral Curzon. 4th. John Edwards, Esq., London, with Queen Victoria, Acca, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Tybalt, Admiral Curzon, Romeo, Princess Royal, Tybalt, Admiral Curzon, Squire Meynell, Sarah Payne, and Queen Victoria. 5th. J.

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J. Coleman, Esq, Norwich, with seedling, Lord Rancliffe, Premier, Music, seedling, seedling, William IV., Lorenzo, Justice Shallow, Squire Trow, Firebrand, and Matthews's Esther. 6th. Mr. Burman, of Hull, with Prince Albert, Horsa, Mrs. Pickering, Admiral Curzon, Lady Ely, Admiral Curzon, Duncan, Lovely Ann, Lord Byron, Firebrand, Squire Meynell, and Lord Milton.

Twelve Picotees.—1st. Mr. E. S. Dodwell, with Duke of Devonshire (Bayley), Regina (Marris), Prince of Wales, seedling, Haidee, Countess, Venus, Prince Arthur, Rosalind. Mrs. Norman, Mrs. Barnard, and Bridesmaid. 2nd John Edwards, Esq., with, Mrs. Norman, Princess Royal, Alfred, Princess Royal, Grace Darling, James II., Queen Victoria, Countess, Christabel, Mrs. Barnard, Gem, and Queen Victoria. 3rd. Mr Bayley, with Duke of Devonshire, Regina, Haidee, Countess, Venus, Mrs. Barnard, Gem, Prince Arthur, Prince of Wales, Duke of Devonshire, Prince of Wales, and Bridesmaid. 4th. Mr Silbey, of Nottingham, with Gem, Mrs. Barnard, Alfred, Ophelia, Alfred, Lord Nelson, Sophia, Jenny Lind, Theodore, Mrs. Norman, Princess Royal, and Lady Alice Peel. 5th. Mr. H. Steward, with Miss Rosa, Ganymede, Elizabeth, Miss Rosa, Enchantress, Princess Royal, Mrs. Barnard, Juliet, Princess Alice, Mrs. Norman, and Delicata. 6th. Mr. Fisher, Derby, with King of Purples, Countess, Mary, Lady Harriet Moore, seedling, Mrs. Barnard, Prince of Wales, Isabella, Venus, Prince Arthur, Lord Nelson, and Bridesmaid.

SINGLE BLOOMS, IN CLASSSES: OPEN TO ALL.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Admiral Curzon, Mr. Keynes
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Prince Albert, Mr. Silbey
4 Rembrandt, Mr. Bayley
5 Admiral Curzon, ditto

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Owen Glendower, Mr. Keynes
2 Ditto ditto
3 Lord Milton, Mr. Bayley
4 General Monk Mr. Keynes
5 Lord Milton, Mr. Bayley

Pink and Purple Bizarres.

1 Sarah Payne, Mr. Bayley
2 Sarah Payne, Messrs. Schofield & Son
3 Sarah Payne, Mr. Bayley
4 Lady of the Lake, Schofield & Son
5 Sarah Payne, John Edwards, Esq.

Purple Flakes.

1 Premier, Mr. E. S. Dodwell
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Ditto, ditto

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Commander-in-Chief. Mr. Steward
2 Queen Victoria, Mr. Dodwell
3 Firebrand, Mr. Steward
4 Firebrand, Mr. Dodwell
5 Firebrand, Mr. Bayley

Rose Flakes.

1 Flora's Garland, Mr. Keynes
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Magnificent, Mr. Bayley
4 Seedling No. 4, ditto
5 Rosetta, Mr. Keynes

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Red

1 Mrs. Hoyle, G. W Hoyle, Esq
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Theodore, Mr. Keynes
4 Seedling No. 10, Mr. Bayley
5 Duchess of Cambridge, Mr. Silbey

Light-edged Red.

1 Gem, Mr Silbey
2 Gem, Mr. Bayley
3 Mary, Mr. Fisher
4 Mary, Mr. Steward
5 Jenny Lind, Mr. Silbey

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Alfred, Mr. Keynes
2 Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Bayley
3 Lord Nelson, Backhouse & Son
4 Alfred, Mr. Keynes
5 Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Bayley

Light-edged Purple.

1 Haidee, Mr. Keynes
2 Ophelia, ditto
3 Haidee, Mr. Keynes
4 Bridesmaid, ditto
5 Ditto, ditto

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Alice Hoyle, G. W. Hoyle, Esq.
2 Venus, Mr. Bayley
3 Lamia, Mr. Keynes
4 Alice, G. W. Hoyle, Esq.
5 Miss Rosa, Mr. Bayley

Light-edged Rose.

1 Seedling, Mr. Dodwell
2 Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Silbey
3 Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Bayley
4 Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Silbey
5 Miss Rosa, Messrs. Backhouse & Son

Yellow.

1 Martin's Queen Victoria, Mr. Keynes
2 Malay Chief, Mr. Burman
3 Trip to York, John Edwards, Esq.
4 Prince Oroneau, ditto
5 Euphemia, Mr. Burman

Premier Carnation.—Lord Rancliffe, Mr. H. Steward.
Premier Picotee.—Haidee, Mr. Dodwell.

A first-class certificate was awarded to Mrs. Hoyle (Hoyle), a heavy red-edged variety, of great excellence, something in the style of King James, but a decided improvement upon it. It is of good size, very smooth, petals broad and gently cupped, the white and colour first-rate

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

OUR VISIT TO HEREFORD.

We were highly delighted with an invitation to the ancient city of Hereford, to act as censor at their horticultural exhibition, on the 8th of September last, more especially as we had not been further in that direction than Worcester, and consequently were anxious to see this celebrated hop and fruit-growing county. We learnt too that from Worcester to Hereford we should be obliged to take coach, a novelty of no ordinary character in these steaming days. We prepared for a treat, and were not disappointed. The drive from Worcester to Malvern was one of extreme beauty. At the lower part, the "cottage ornés" were tastefully adorned with climbing roses; in fact, all the gardens appeared to be well stocked with choice standard roses, dahlias, and bedding plants. Entering on the right, by the side of a small chapel, was a square tomb, surrounded by an iron railing, over which a weeping willow threw its pendent branches, which reached the ground on every side, conveying very forcibly the idea of unabated sorrow. On the left is a large expanse of waste land, on which a few ponies, pigs, asses, and geese were grazing, but which, if planted, would make a most beautiful park and drives, thus adding to the interest of this already charming locality. We do not know whether there are any common rights, but these rights would not suffer, because, were the plantations guarded by rails now and hedges hereafter, they would afford shelter to the cattle, besides, by levelling, eradicating the

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fern, &c. better herbage would result, and all parties would be benefitted. We think if a few influential individuals were to take it up, they might raise subscriptions amongst the visiters of Malvern, which would go a long way in realizing such an idea; and in a few years, how beautiful would be the view from the town, and what a comfort to the valetudinarian to have quiet and umbrageous drives. How amazingly would the property increase in value; in fact, we know of no place where such an undertaking would be so highly beneficial to all concerned. *Verbum sat.* Amongst other plants besides those named above, which appear to thrive here, is the hydrangea. They were large bushes, covered with fine heads of flowers, some pink, others pale blue, and unexpanded, green, on the same plant, having a singular and pretty effect. Some considerable planting has been done on the mountain sides, and we noticed rude huts, far away up, with patches of corn in their vicinity; certainly an unfavourable situation, but what will not the British peasant strive to do, if his labour is all that is required? and we find that these ungenial spots are cultivated, and sown with barley for his pig, or bearded wheat for flour. The abbey, at Great Malvern, is a fine building, and from it the splendour of the view must be seen to be appreciated. Worcester to the left, Cheltenham and Gloucester to the right, are distinctly visible, whilst a beautiful panorama spreads for miles. It is a lovely country, and here may be seen in all its detail, a thorough English landscape. We were amused with the stud of donkeys, standing with cloths on, which covered the side saddles, and we met many fair equestrians (*query, asinustrians*), who did not appear to be able to go faster than the animals chose, whatever might be the "*persuaders*" applied. There are one or two donkeys on which her Majesty rode, during her sojourn at Malvern, some years ago, probably when Princess Victoria, and as an inducement, one attendant asserts that the Queen rode on his,

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whilst another declares the same, till it would appear that every donkey in the place had been thus honoured. As we rolled on towards Ledbury, we passed an amazing number of orchards. A full crop is everywhere apparent. Some of the pear trees, which are of immense size, and must be very old, stand in avenues, and in almost every case the ground was cultivated beneath the trees, swede turnips appearing to be the principal crop. The pears and apples, which are used for perry and cider, are allowed to drop off, and are then gathered into heaps, preparatory to being carried away and crushed. We learnt that there are comparatively few Irishmen employed here during harvest, and that twelve shillings per week is the maximum of the labourers' wages, with the somewhat astonishing allowance of six quarts of cider per day to each man. Of course this beverage varies much in strength. We had a good opportunity of tasting some first-rate perry. The very civil and intelligent coachman of "The Queen," hearing us express a desire to have a draught, pulled up at the house of Mr. Godsall, an extensive farmer, at Easthood Oak, sent in his compliments, and requested a jug of perry. We gave more than one hearty pull at the sparkling beverage, and (in our simplicity) fancied we detected a very strong resemblance to champaign, which we have occasionally drank, and supposed to be from the celebrated French vineyards, so famous for its production. Be that as it may, taking cost into consideration, we would much rather have Mr. Godsall's perry. We do not know whether Mr. Mechi has travelled in this part of the world, but of a surety, the farm buildings are of the most primitive construction possible. The barns are thatched, and boarded at the sides, and in some instances wattled in the manner of a hurdle, and the other buildings appear to be erected without regard to regularity or economy of space; many of the ponds from which the cattle drink are as black as strong coffee, and the essence of the manure heaps runs to

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different is this to the conduct of the Goths of renovators who bedaubed with whitewash the beautiful ceiling of Chichester cathedral. Boy as we then were, we could not help mourning the loss of the ancient and to us splendid portraits of angels, &c.; and this feeling has grown with our growth, and perhaps accounts for our hatred at seeing an old and picturesque tree, which has required the growth of centuries, cut down—murdered, literally murdered, in a quarter of an hour. *Mais allons.* We much regretted that the part of the cathedral not used for public worship was in dire confusion, the floor taken up, the monuments out of their places, and some venerable bishops minus their noses, whilst the hands of others, raised in the attitude of prayer, had been knocked off at the wrists. Such is the fact, and what is worse, some parties who had taken casts of the figures on a screen, had most fearfully mutilated them. Some part has been restored. Beautiful groined windows, which had been blocked up and plastered over, have been opened and cleaned, and all their pristine beauty is apparent. Still this necessary work is positively at a standstill, for want of funds! We always thought the church was rich. Perhaps Hereford is a poor see, but surely others might come to the rescue. Our next move was to the Castle green, though but few vestiges of the building remain. It is a delightful promenade. On three sides of the green are magnificent elm trees, with a broad walk beneath them; the other side is open to the beautiful river Wye, which winds down towards a high hill, stated to have been the site of a Danish encampment, and known as the Dynedor. In the centre of the green is a monument to Nelson, and around it are placed some ancient cannons, which were formerly mounted on the walls of the town. The green is most excellently adapted for floral exhibitions. Several marquees were erected, the main one being filled with the productions of the amateurs and nurserymen of Hereford, and another

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being literally crammed with the productions of cottagers. Lady Foley encourages these industrious people very much, and we are sure it must be highly gratifying to her ladyship to see her prizes so strongly and capitally contested. The collections of vegetables, were here shown in wheelbarrows, and in outdoor exhibitions, we think a most appropriate manner; for the vegetables are arranged at the exhibiter's garden, he trundles them to the show ground, and places his barrow in a line with the other competitors, ready for the inspection of the judges. Amongst other things which these poor people had brought, were designs, or large flat bouquets, made of wild flowers. They displayed considerable taste, and were in great variety. In the main tent, the Hereford amateurs and nurserymen gave good evidence that they could grow dahlias well. Some fine and new roses were also exhibited. Hollyhocks and verbenas were good, and the asters very fine. We do not know when we have seen so excellent a display of bouquets. For these there was strong competition, and certainly the manufacturers had displayed great taste. The weakest part of the show was in the plant department, owing, we believe, to several contributors being unable to attend. Dr. Bull, the spirited and indefatigable honorary secretary, induced a very interesting competition, by offering a gold and silver pencil case for the first and second best collections of dried specimens of wild plants, gathered in Herefordshire. We understand the competitors were so nearly equal, that Dr. Bull decided on giving each of the successful competitors a gold pencil case of equal value; and when we say that one collection, that of A. T. Wilmot, Esq., surgeon, of Ross, contained seven hundred and forty-five specimens, beautifully dried and correctly named, whilst the other, that of Mr. E. Davies, of Hereford, contained five hundred and thirty-three, equally good in quality, though rather better mounted, our readers will be able to form some idea of the miles that had

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been walked, and the trouble taken, to produce such fine collections of dried plants as were here introduced. Another great feature of the exhibition was the fruit, and we must say that it was pre-eminent, especially the grapes, peaches, nectarines, and apricots. The apples and pears too were very good, though we think several of these were incorrectly named. For instance, the apple called Devonshire Quarrendon, was Waterloo. The Quarrendon is more crimson, with slight ribs, whilst this was as smooth and round as if just turned out of a lathe. They are both very productive. The Normanton Wonder, or Dummeller's Pippin, which took the first prize in culinary apples, was very fine in form, and perfectly clean, as good specimens of this fruit as we ever remember to have seen. The pears were also very good, especially the Jargonelle, Duchess d'Angouleme, Williams's Bon Chretien, Gansell's Bergamot, &c. There was also a strong competition with two trays of outdoor fruits, which we had some difficulty to decide; and though the loser was disappointed, still out of the six dishes in the winning tray, the peaches, apricots, nectarines, and pears were so superior, that though the other had a dish of figs, on which he built his hopes, that dish was but one point, and we were obliged conscientiously to decide against him. Altogether the exhibition was very good, and certainly better than we expected. We were glad to find a few carnation growers in the neighbourhood; and a movement also appears in the cultivation of the gooseberry, Dr. Bull having this season grown Thumper to 27dwt. 6gr. and Catherine 21dwt. 6gr., whilst very creditable fruit was weighed in by Mr. Adams and Mr. Reynolds. In comparing this exhibition with others, the cottagers' collections, both in number and the quality and variety of the articles, were very far in advance of any society at which we have had the pleasure of judging; and if there were a Lady Foley in every town and village in England, we should have less rates to pay for police-

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men and prisons. We cannot conclude these rough notes of one of the most fruitful counties in England, without according our most hearty thanks to the gentlemen connected with the exhibition, for their hospitality and kindness.

NOTES FROM MY SEEDLING TULIP BOOK.

BY J. SLATER, FLORIST, CHEETHAM-HILL, NEAR MANCHESTER.

Of all floricultural pursuits, that of raising seedlings creates the most exciting sensations in the amateur, and to his indefatigable exertions we are largely indebted for so many gems added to our collections. He who has never raised seedlings cannot form any idea of the pleasure it causes. As soon as the opening calyx of the pink or carnation is observed, or the petals of a tulip are first seen in colour, he devotes every moment of his leisure, eagerly waiting its expansion, and should it possess those beautiful proportions and properties which are the main essentials of a fine flower, he rejoices in his success, and a parent, on the birth of a child, can scarcely feel more affection for his offspring, than the florist for his seedling; but too often he overestimates its intrinsic merits, is blind to its defects, and thinks it has no equal. He who can moderate his expectations, and view his seedlings as becomes one who possesses a knowledge of what they ought to be, will escape much vexation, whilst he who boasts too highly of them will have to undergo many mortifications.

In introducing my notes, which I trust will be acceptable to the readers of the *Midland Florist*, I have only one end in view, and that is the advancement of floriculture and the raising of seedlings.

In 1836, I sowed the first tulip seed, and this of a mixed kind, from which forty-three were raised. By mixed seed, I here mean seed taken from any tulip which produced it, no matter its form, bottom, &c. 1837, no seed was taken. In 1838, the seed sown

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was from Queen Boadicea, *alias* Duchess of Newcastle, from which twenty-five were raised. An interregnum then takes place, and in 1841, seed was sown from Catafalque, better known as Old Dutch Catafalque, Queen Boadicea, and Buckley's Beauty, also mixed seed, but no account of the number produced. In 1843, seed was sown from Louis XVI., Lillard Violet, Lady Crewe, Polyphemus crossed with San Joe, and Queen Boadicea. No number stated. Polyphemus was not scientifically crossed, not then knowing that few tulips possessed an ovarium, and I took the pollen of the San Joe, and dusted the anthers, as well as the pericarpium, and fortunately it took effect. Afterwards, I perceived the ovarium, an opening at the top of the pericarpium, about the size of a small pin head, and was always careful in choosing a flower which possessed it. I then took the pollen from the one selected to impregnate with, on a camel hair pencil, and placed it on the aperture, and immediately put a bag of Nottingham net over the bloom, to prevent bees or flies spoiling what I had done. In 1844, sowed from Queen Boadicea. In 1845, from the same, Slater's Sir Henry Pottinger, and Gargantua, crossed with Louis XVI. In 1846, from Polyphemus crossed with Roi Min d'Or, Democrat, Queen Boadicea, and a rose breeder of Gibbons's, crossed with Cerise Blanche, *alias* Madame Catalina. In 1847, from Sir Henry Pottinger. In 1848, from a rose breeder, supposed to be one of Clark's. In 1849, from a rose breeder. In 1850, from Jean of Arragon rose breeder, and Pericles. In 1852, from Marchioness of Waterford rose breeder. In 1853, from Queen Sophia, a seedling rose breeder of my own raising, crossed with another; Fanny Hales, a flamed rose, a seedling from Democrat, crossed with Modestina; and Hilda, a seedling from rose breeder Gibbons. The number raised is about three hundred, all much larger bulbs than is usual for yearlings, which I think is owing to having been raised from seedlings only seven years old.

Now for the results. In 1842, eight were selected,

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only one of which, Conqueror, feathered bizarre, a very shy grower, is good. In 1843, seven bloomed from the same seed; only two are worthy a place, Curion, feathered bizarre, and Regulator, flamed bizarre. In 1844, eighteen bloomed: Kate Connor; Fire King, bizarre, not yet broken; Gipsy Queen, a rose; Marian Ramsay, very extra feathered rose; Telemachus, bizarre; and Ambition, which is of excellent form, but has not broken well up to this time. In 1845, thirteen: John o' Gaunt, bizarre; Alice Gray, and My Mary, both feathered roses; and Masterpiece, a splendid bizarre. In 1846, fourteen, eight of which are retained as being good in form, &c. In 1847, only five selected, and in all probability, the whole will be worthless. In 1848, forty-three selected, and seventeen retained at present. In 1849, nineteen were selected, but only twelve retained. In 1850, eighteen, only six at present retained. In 1851, thirty-four, twenty-five retained. In 1852, forty-nine, principally roses, retained. In 1853, fifty-five selected, and twenty-nine first-rate, the others on trial.

It will be seen that by saving seed only from first-rate varieties, what a number is selected and retained, in comparison with the early sowings; and it is a singular fact, that nearly the whole of the seed was taken from breeders, and yet they bloomed broken. The best-formed cups were from Gibbons breeder, crossed with Cerise Blanche and Dixon's Democrat, a very fine flamed byblœmen; and what is very remarkable, Democrat was crossed, I believe, with Duc de Bordeaux, yet some of the finest roses in cultivation have been produced from it. Rose breeder Gibbons produced a few good ones, yet there has been a much larger number thrown away than from any other selected seed. It is highly necessary to select good marking varieties. That the parents should be such, will be obvious, from the progeny having all their peculiarities. Polyphemus, crossed with San Joe, is a striking illustration. The foliage, bud, &c. is exactly like both, yet the colours have been quite different when in the breeder state, and

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both the ground colour of one and the feathering of the other have been united in one flower, and many have such ground colour and black feathering as is not to be met with in any varieties now grown. Another thing to be observed, is to take special care that the parent which carries the pod be far removed from its origin, as nearly all, if not all, were at one period impure at the base; and however careful you may be, there will be some which will carry the original impurity of their predecessors to a very great extent throughout the whole sowing. Even Polyphemus, crossed with San Joe, will produce many worthless varieties, although form will be found in all, but San Joe in a breeder state is very impure. I have not taken seed from bizarres, for some years, as this class is numerous. The same with byblœmens. Roses are very scarce and much wanted; consequently I have paid great attention to this class, as will be seen by the statement below.

ANALYSIS.

YEAR.	NO. BLOOMED.	SELECTED.	NOW GROWN.	ON TRIAL.
1842	14	8	1	0
1843	28	7	2	0
1844	32	18	6	0
1845	71	13	6	0
1846	50	14	9	0
1847	36	5	1	0
1848	130	43	13	0
1849	99	19	9	0
1850	132	18	12	0
1851	146	34	33	0
1852	211	60	18	12
1853	137	55	29	26
	1086	294	169	38

Varieties broken, up to 1853..... 163

NUMBER IN EACH CLASS.

Roses.....	55
Byblœmens	39
Bizarres.....	75
	169

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CULTIVATION OF PHLOX DRUMMONDII.

BEAUTIFUL as this plant is for bedding, I think it far superior when grown for the conservatory. I sow the seed in March, in a frame, with gentle heat. As soon as the plants are large enough, they are pricked off into sixty-sized pots, and again returned to the frame. They are repotted as they require it, until they get into the blooming pots (twenty-fours). As they grow, the tops are pinched off, to make them bushy, and they receive waterings of liquid manure. The plants should be kept as near the glass as possible, and receive plenty of air. When they are in flower, the seed vessel should be removed, or they will not keep up a succession of bloom. The soil I use for them is two parts leaf mould, and one part loam, with a good quantity of silver sand. By the above management, I have had plants that were a complete mass of bloom from May to October, and the admiration of all who saw them.

W. S. M. M.

NOTICES OF SEEDLING GOOSEBERRIES OF 1853.

THE show, on the 6th of August, at the Sir John Falstaff, Market-place, Manchester, was numerously attended, the fruit exhibited of first-rate quality, and the display of seedlings good. We will endeavour to describe the seedlings, that purchasers may be enabled to distinguish true from spurious sorts.

Mr. Parry's red seedling, *Jupiter*, a short, rough berry, in form of Highlander; a bright dark red, between Highlander and Companion. Quite distinct.

Mr. James Biddulph's red seedling, *Hanchurch*, a smooth, long, dark red berry, with vein colour and form of Conquering Hero, except the unripe part of the berry, which is brighter, and has not that dull muddy colour which appears in the unripe part of Conquering Hero; but so nearly do these varieties resemble each other, that on being compared, they

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were pronounced by the growers to be one sort. The berries received, were imperfect specimens, one being so tarnished there was scarce a vein perceptible, and the other deformed. We trust he will grow it again, and send a more perfect specimen another year. We are sorry to say those received of this variety are not sufficiently distinct.

Mr. Joseph Leicester's red seedling, a rough, long berry, well formed, and of a pinkish red colour. A sound, late sort, quite distinct.

The late Jonathan Hulme's red seedling, a rough berry, of a light red colour, with broad green seed veins, in form of a short three-veined London. Quite distinct.

Mr. Benjamin Pixton's red seedling, a smooth berry, in form of King Cole, and something in colour of Magnet. Quite distinct.

Mr. Smedley's (of Southwell, Notts.) red seedling, *Southwell Red*, a rough, dark berry, something in colour of Guido, but resembling a two-veined Companion in form. Quite distinct.

Mr. William Oliver's red seedling, a smooth, light-coloured berry, in form of a three-veined Wonderful, with the seed veins less sunk, and a smaller stalk. Quite distinct,

Mr. James Leigh Bancroft.—One of your red berries is too near Lion's Provider. Try the other again.

Mr. John Brown.—Your red and white berries are unworthy of notice. Sow from the best varieties, and try again.

Mr. Thomas Etchell's yellow seedling, *Mr. Thomas Whittaker*, 20dt. 4gr. a rough, light, dull-coloured berry, in form of Leader, but rather longer, with double the number of broad light yellow veins, which cover one-fourth of its surface; a sound, late sort, and quite distinct. This variety being the best seedling that has appeared on this occasion, and likely to stand permanently in its class, we testify our approval, by naming it after one who devoted so much time and energy to the welfare of gooseberry growing, and whose memory will ever be held in the highest esteem by a large circle of friends and gooseberry growers generally.

Mr. George Crompton's yellow seedling, *Candidate*, a long, smooth, dark olive-coloured berry, with broad light yellow veins, and a slight resemblance to Drill in form, but better shouldered, and fuller towards the stalk. Quite distinct.

Mr. J. Bailey's yellow seedling, a smooth berry, with the form and vein of Catherina, and something of the colour of Marigold. Quite distinct.

Mr. William Duke's yellow seedling, a long, smooth, light yellow, something of the colour of Forget-me-not. Distinct.

Mr. Swift's (of Southwell, Notts.) yellow, *Great Gun*, let out last October, a long, rough, dark-coloured berry, between green and yellow, with light yellow veins, in form of Great Britain. Quite distinct.

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Mr. Rowbotham Oldfield's green seedling, *Model*, a long, rough green, of a dark muddy colour, in form of a three-veined Drill; a long-stalked berry, and winged in the style of that old variety Weedham's Delight. Quite distinct.

Mr. Charles Stanier's green seedling, *Jerry*, a smooth, square-formed berry, between Green River and Providence. Quite distinct.

Mr. Henry Hapwood's (of Ardsley) green seedling, *Robin Hood*, a rough, bright green, with the vein and form of a two-veined Leader. Quite distinct.

Mrs. Thomas Chippendale's green seedling, *Grace Darling*, a long, smooth, bright dark green, with broad light green veins. A Drill in form, a broad, late, sound sort, one of the best, and quite distinct.

Mr. J. Hilton's green seedling, a smooth, bright dark green, with many good light-coloured veins, something in form of Gretna Green. Quite distinct.

Mr. Richard Goodall's green seedling, a smooth-veining berry, something in form of Thumper. Quite distinct.

Mr. William Duke's green seedling, a smooth, dark green, a veining berry, in form of Queen of Trumps. Quite distinct.

Mr. Bradwell's (of Southwell, Notts.) green seedling, *Prize Green*, a smooth light green, between Green River and Turn-out, with broad light-coloured veins, which are level with the veins surface of the berry, the top of which resembles Green River, and the nose part Turnout. Quite distinct.

Mr. Smedley's (of Southwell, Notts.) green seedling *Westgate Green*, a long, smooth, oval-formed berry, with but few veins, which are very strong and good, running level with the surface. So beautifully is this variety formed, that neither ridge nor furrow are perceptible, and so round at each end, that were the stalk and snub took off, either end would do for nose. Quite distinct.

Mr. Bradwell's (of Southwell, Notts.) green seedling, *Fancy Green*, a long, rough, light green berry, the veins sunk and the quarter puffed up in the style of Nonpareil, in form of a long two-veined Thunderer, with the exception of the seed veins being more sunk. Quite distinct.

Mr. Joseph Leicester's green seedling, *Lord Eldon*, a smooth, dark green, with a dull rhime on the surface of the skin, in the style of Leader, which it resembles both in form and vein. Quite distinct.

Mr. William Oliver's green seedling, a smooth, dark green, with light green veins, something in form of a three-veined Overall, and as dark in colour as Navarino. Quite distinct.

Mr. Thomas Nichols's white seedling, *Faith*, a long, smooth, well-formed berry, of the Freedom and Queen of Trumps school, but darker in colour, squarer in form, and stronger in vein. A sound, late sort, and quite distinct.

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Mr. William Berry's white seedling, *Free Will*, a seedling from London, which it resembles, with the exception of the nose, which is more like Railway; in fact, we cannot better describe this variety than by saying it has the form, vein, and snub of Railway; of a dull colour; a late, sound sort, and quite distinct.

Mr. William Road's white seedling, a long, smooth berry, in form of a two-veined Briton, and something in colour of a Coppice Lass, but better veined. A late, hard sort, and quite distinct.

Mr. Richard Goodall's white seedling, a long, smooth-veining berry, about the colour of Fairstart. Quite distinct.

JOHN HOLLAND, Middleton, *President.*
JAMES WHITTAKER, Blackley, *Treasurer.*
SAMUEL BARLOW, Stoke Hill, *Secretary.*
CHARLES LEICESTER, Macclesfield, } *Judges.*
WILLIAM DRIVER, Sheffield, }
WILLIAM COULBY, Nottingham, }

Part II.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

E.S.D.—No. 1. Scarlet flake. Thin and small; white and quality first-rate, colour extremely rich, petal well-formed and very smooth. Wants nothing but size.

3. Purple flake, ex. Rachel. A large bold flower; petal smooth and finely shaped, colour bright, and a good white, A useful variety, but not a beat upon the parent.

5. Pink and purple bizarre, from the same parent. Something in the way of Princess (Taylor). A desirable sort.

6. Scarlet bizarre. Too small, but novel; fine in quality. and capital shape. Much like Curzon, but with more white.

7, 8, and 8 a. Three scarlet flakes, ex. Queen Victoria. Colour and marking inimitable, but too thin. Try again by all means. We think 7 the best.

9. Heavy red picotee, ex. Robinson's Elizabeth. A good useful sort; not quite so heavily margined as the parent. Full size.

10. Light red, ex. Mary. Do not think an improvement on the parent.

11. Heavy red, ex. Mary Ann. A great improvement on the parent, the petal being broad and continued to the crown.

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Decidedly worth cultivation, even in the present advanced position of the class.

15. Light purple, ex. Alfred, crossed Duke of Rutland. A most beautiful variety, and a fair rival to Haidee. Thin enough, but richer in the quality than anything we know, admirably setting off its dense purple margin. Petal of fine shape and substance. Unless we are much mistaken, it will prove a clipper.

17. Heavy rose, from the same parents. A noble flower truly. Extremely large, with a first-rate broad petal, margined deeply with rose. The colour is a little too pale in the specimen sent, apparently faded by the sun. If bloomed without this defect, nothing can touch it.

19. Heavy purple. Extremely novel, the marginal colour being laid on something in the way of a feathered tulip. Whether florists will accept such a style we know not; we like it, and should grow every bit of it.

20. Light purple. Very pretty, but nowhere with 15.

26. Heavy purple, ex. Duke of Rutland, crossed with Alfred. An extremely fine sort. Some of the petals are a little too square, but nothing can beat the quality.

29 and 44. Also from the same parents, and heavy purples. 29 is rather small, but not to be excelled for its fine-shaped petal and regular colour. 44 is larger, and we should say the master of the class, but we fancy the petal is scarcely so smooth as Alfred. The shape of petal, substance, regularity of colour, and quality is all that can be desired.

33. Light purple, also from the same source. An ex. ex. sort assuredly. White unbeatable. Very large and full. The centre petals are rather too small, and some of them not quite smooth, but a fine variety. We put No. 15 first, this second.

28, 24, 35, 39, and 42. Rose picotees, also from the Duke and Alfred. All first-rate sorts. We really can hardly say which we think best. If they have good constitutions, a great revolution will be effected in the class. As we said above, of the purples, it is impossible to beat the fine white and quality these seedlings possess. Such a fine batch ought to satisfy even you. Will you let us have the names?

Seedling Purple Picotee, No. 5.—Of course, being so late (9th September) we cannot offer any decided opinion. It has only twelve petals, but the white is good; the narrow lace is entirely confined to the edge, and we could not detect bar, spot, or fault on either of the petals. Layer it by all means, and very probably it will make a good flower, next season.

Pansy.—B., of *B.*—A heavy purple belt, clear ground, and good eye. Promising.

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D.—Your petunias were completely shrivelled; some damp moss should have been put in the box. From what we could see, they appeared to be prettily-veined varieties.

DAHLIA.—W. W.—*Comet*, a good colour and deep, but the flowers were sadly bruised. It looks likely.

FUCHSIA.—TRENTHAM.—Your bloom has good broad sepals, and is a stout and well-reflexed flower; the foliage is fine. It will prove an addition to its class, or we are mistaken.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

AWARDS OF THE NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY, LONDON,

FROM JANUARY TO JUNE.

MARCH 24.

Certificate of merit to cineraria *Mrs. Edwards*. Habit neat, dwarf; form not first-rate; size medium; colour pale peachy lilac, with a gray disk. Rewarded for its novelty of colour. From Mr. J. Keynes, Salisbury.

Certificate of merit to cyclamen (No. 1 **). Bloom large, pure white, the tube with a well-defined crimson mouth, the segments broad and obtuse. Rewarded for its large size, excellent form, and the distinctness of its colouring. From Messrs. E. G. Henderson & Son, St. John's Wood.

Certificate of merit to epacris *Pallida*. Colour pale pink; a decided improvement in form on hyacinthiflora, having broader and more obtuse divisions to the corolla. Rewarded specially for its improved form. From J. Wilmore, Esq., Birmingham.

Label of commendation to cineraria *Frances Arabella*. Habit vigorous; truss large and compact; colour rich deep purple crimson, with a light disk. Rewarded for its showiness and brilliancy of colour. From Mr. W. Ivery, Peckham.

Label of commendation to cyclamen (2 **). Colour white, the segments broad and obtuse. Rewarded for its purity, and general good properties. From Messrs. E. G. Henderson & Son, St. John's Wood.

Label of commendation to cyclamen (12 *s*). Colour bright rose, the tube with a deep crimson mouth. Rewarded for its lively colour, and general good properties. From Messrs. E. G. Henderson & Son, St. John's Wood.

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April 7.

Certificate of merit to cineraria *Conspicua*. Habit vigorous but compact; truss large and dense; flowers large; substance good; form not first-rate; colour white ground, heavily tipped with rosy purple, the disk dark blue, and of medium size. Rewarded as a showy and useful variety, suitable for exhibition. From Mr. G. Wheeler, Warminster.

Certificate of merit to cineraria *Mrs. Truelove*. Habit vigorous, not compact; truss irregular; form not first-rate; size medium; substance good; colour pure white ground, heavily tipped with dense crimson purple, the disk very dark purple. Rewarded for the distinctness and striking contrast of its colouring. From Mr. W. Ivery, Peckham.

April 21.

A first-class certificate to cineraria *National*. Habit dwarf; truss even; size large; form good, a little cupped; substance good; colour pure white, heavily tipped with rosy lilac, the disk purple and of medium size. Rewarded for its general excellence. From Mr. G. Smith, Hornsey-road.

A first-class certificate to pansy *Monarch* (Hale). Flowers large; form first-rate, the outline very even; substance good; colour rich golden yellow ground, deeply belted with rich purple marone, and having a very distinct dense eye of the same colour. Rewarded for its general excellence. From Mr. Turner, Slough.

A first-class certificate to pansy *Samson*. Flowers large; form and substance good; colour rich yellow ground, deeply belted with rich dark purple marone, and having a heavily-marked radiating eye of the same colour. Rewarded for its general good properties. From Mr. Bragg, Slough.

Certificate of merit to cineraria *Lady Camoys*. Habit vigorous; truss large and even; flowers medium size; colour clear white ground, with medium edging of ultramarine blue, the disk of medium size, and of a greyish blue colour. Evidently a flower of striking properties, but produced in a bad state of health; so that if it had been better cultivated, it would probably have merited a higher reward. From Messrs. Sutton & Sons, Reading.

Label of commendation to cineraria *Antagonist*. Habit vigorous; colour white, shaded with purple and blue. Remarkable for fine petals, good substance, and good habit; but a tendency in the colours to run prevented it from obtaining a higher reward. From Mr. Turner, Slough.

Label of commendation to cineraria *Vesta*. Habit compact and dwarf; truss even; flowers medium-sized, with flat broad

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petals; colour white, very slightly tipped with purple, and having a purple disk of medium size. From Mr. G. Smith, Hornsey-road.

May 5.

A first-class certificate to azalea *Beauté de l'Europe*. Habit of variegata; a very free bloomer; flowers full medium size, the divisions broad and rounded, and of good substance; colour flesh ground, paler at the edges, striped and mottled with pale carmine or rose-pink. Rewarded for general good properties, and distinctness in respect to colour. From M. Meillez, Lille, France.

A first-class certificate to *Polyanthus flore-pleno variegata*. Habit vigorous, a free bloomer, the truss averaging four to six pips; flowers very double, large for a polyanthus; colour red, bordered yellow, with yellow centre. Rewarded for its novelty of character, size, and showy properties for the flower-border. From Mr. Dobson, Isleworth.

Certificate of merit to cineraria *Optima* (Bousie). Habit rather loose; truss open, spreading; flowers large and cupped; colour white ground, tipped with blue purple, the disk dark purple. Rewarded for the size and showiness of its flowers. From Mr. Turner, Slough.

Certificate of merit to polyanthus *Prince Albert*. Habit vigorous; truss desirable; flowers medium size; colour deep marone, broadly laced with deep yellow, uniform with the ground colour. Rewarded for its constancy. From Mr. Mockett, gardener to J. Allnutt. Esq., Clapham.

May 26.

Certificate of merit to pelargonium (bedding) *Pretty Polly*. Habit dwarf, and a very free bloomer; truss averaging five pips; flowers of good form; size medium; substance good; colour bright rosy pink, with dark blotch on upper petals; foliage oak-leaved, sweet-scented. Rewarded on account of its desirableness for bedding purposes. Many of the blossoms having fallen off, it was thought desirable that it should be shown again. From Mr. Keynes, Salisbury.

Certificate of merit to auricula *Lord John Russell*. Habit dwarf and good; truss bold; pips numerous; flowers of good form and medium size; colour and paste solid, grey-edged. Rewarded as being a variety fit for exhibition. From Mr. Crane, Southgate.

Certificate of merit to azalea *Duchess of Wellington*. Habit dwarf, compact; flowers large; form good; substance first-rate; colour clear rose, slightly spotted with deeper rose near the base of the upper segments. Rewarded for the excellent

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substance and boldness of its flowers. From Messrs. E. G. Henderson & Son, St. John's Wood.

Certificate of merit to cineraria *Sievewright's No.* 1. Habit dwarf and vigorous; truss neat; flowers of large size and good substance; colour white, heavily tipped with deep purple, the disk purple. Rewarded for general attractiveness. From Mr. Sievewright, Cargilfield, Edinburgh.

Certificate of merit to cineraria *Eva.* Habit half shrubby; truss open; flowers medium size; form and substance good; colour very pure white, with a medium tip of light purple, the disk dark purple. Rewarded for pureness of ground colour and distinctness of marking and habit. From C. P. Lochner, Esq., Paddington.

Certificate of merit to pelargonium *Neatness.* Habit compact; truss averaging four or five pips; flowers medium size; substance medium; form average; colour deep rosy pink, with veined lower petals, bluish throat, and dark veiny blotch, with crimson margin; foliage small. Rewarded for its general attractiveness and freeness in blooming. From Mr. Beck, Isleworth.

Certificate of merit to tulip *Bail's No.* 1. Form first-rate; size medium; substance good; colour a byblœmen, with feather a medium width. Rewarded for its pureness and ivory-like surface. The bloom was somewhat injured, or a higher award might have been made. From Mr. Bail, Salisbury.

Label of commendation to calceolaria *Prince Arthur.* Habit vigorous, compact, and a free bloomer; flowers medium-sized; form broader than long, the mouth open; substance good; the colour deep crimson, mottled with orange. From Messrs. E. G. Henderson & Son, St. John's Wood.

June 16.

A first-class certificate to pelargonium *Rosa.* Habit vigorous; truss averaging five pips; flowers medium-sized; form first-rate; substance good; colour, lower petals deep rose pink, centre white, upper petals deep marone, with a medium margin of rose. Rewarded for its first-rate form, and for the fine texture and smoothness of its petals. From E. Foster, Esq., Clewer.

A first-class certificate to pelargonium *Virginia.* Habit compact and vigorous; truss bold, averaging five pips; flowers large; form and substance good; colour, lower petals blush white, upper purple marone, with a narrow margin of blush white. Rewarded for general good properties. The flower is in the way of Beck's Desdemona. From G. W. Hoyle, Esq., Reading.

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Certificate of merit to pelargonium *Carlos*. Habit vigorous; truss bold, averaging five pips; flower large; form and substance good; colour, lower petals light rose, rather veiny, centre white, upper petals very dark marone, with a medium margin of light rose. Rewarded for its bold and showy character. From G. W. Hoyle, Esq., Reading.

Certificate of merit to pelargonium *Lucy*. Habit vigorous and compact; truss averaging four to five pips; flowers large, form and substance good; colour, lower petals light rose, with a slight blotch, throat white, upper petals deep marone, margined with rose. Rewarded for its general good properties. From E. Foster, Esq., Clewer.

Certificate of merit to pelargonium *Pearl of England*. Habit slender; a free bloomer; truss averaging four pips; flowers medium size; form moderate; colour pearly white, with pencilled crimson spot on upper petals. Rewarded as being an improvement on Pearl, and having the same general properties. A desirable flower, from the scarcity of light varieties. From Mr. Dobson, Isleworth.

Certificate of merit to *Azalea striata formosissima*. Habit good; flowers large; form and substance average; colour white, flaked and spotted freely with bright purple. Rewarded for distinctness and freedom of marking. From Mr. Taylor, Streatham.

Label of commendation to pelargonium (fancy) *Lady Mary Labouchere*. Habit very dwarf and compact; truss large and dense, averaging six to eight pips; flowers small; colour white ground, marked with marone and purple. Rewarded as an excellent variety for vases, baskets, and other outdoor purposes. From Mr. Bragg, Slough.

Label of commendation to calceolaria *Amazon*. Habit dwarf, half shrubby; truss large and free; flowers tolerable; colour bronze and yellow. Useful for bedding purposes. From Messrs. E. G. Henderson & Son, St. John's Wood.

Label of commendation to verbena *Beauty*. Habit vigorous and good; truss large; flowers large; form tolerable; substance medium; colour blush white, with rosy purple eye. In the way of, but larger than Madame Buenzod. From E. Banks, Esq., Deal.

June 30.

Certificate of merit to lobelia *Lindleyana*. Habit dwarf and compact; colour bright lilac, the throat white, with light purple spots. A most delightful bedding plant, on account of its lively and novel colour. A variety of Lobelia erinus. From Mr. J. Keynes, Salisbury.

Certificate of merit to fancy pelargonium *Constance*. Habit

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strong; truss large and free; form average; size medium; substance good; colour purple marone top petals, with wide and distinct margin of white, lower petals white, with purple spot, clear white throat; foliage bold. Rewarded as a fine variety for exhibition, as also for general purposes. From Messrs. E. G. Henderson & Son, St. John's Wood.

Certificate of merit to fancy pelargonium *Lady Alice Peel.* Habit good; truss four to five pips; form good; size full; substance average; colour, top petals marone, with narrow and even margin of white, surface and texture of petals good, lower petals mottled marone and white, clear white throat. A good flower for exhibition. From Mr. Miller, Pine-apple-place, Edgware-road.

NATIONAL CARNATION AND PICOTEE SOCIETY.

In our notice of the exhibition of this society, we omitted to notice the meeting for next year is fixed to be held at Derby, under the direction of the Midland Horticultural Society. The following copy of a circular, addressed to the subscribers to the National Society, will serve to explain the steps taken, and proposed to be taken, and we give it the additional publicity our pages will confer, because there are many interested, who have not hitherto been supporters of the society, and because, of all the agencies which have contributed to the development of floriculture, and its present proud position, none have been more momentous in their effect than our "national" gatherings. Full of information of the most vital importance to every lover of flowers, these meetings are also so replete with delight, that of all floral experiences, we look back on these with the most genial satisfaction. Our friends at Derby have honourably distinguished themselves by the careful attention given to the getting up of these exhibitions, and associated as we are with the committee, we know that efforts will be made to make the coming meeting more than ever a "national" demonstration. Such efforts deserve the co-operation of all leal-

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hearted florists, and we are quite sure all who cordially desire the prosperity of floriculture, will find an interest in giving a prompt support. The schedule of prizes proposed is the most extensive ever put forth in the case of the carnation; and of the thirty-two prizes for collections, ten (of six blooms) will be specially reserved for cultivators whose stocks may not exceed two hundred pairs,—such cultivators having also the right to compete with the more extensive growers, if ambitiously minded. A class like this will encourage beginners, and we hope to see it well contested.

"National Carnation and Picotee Society.—Dear Sir—Having on the 20th ult.—the earliest convenient moment of its assembling,—laid before the committee of the Midland Horticultural Society, the resolutions of the general meeting held at York, on the 3rd ult., electing Derby as the place of meeting for 1854, and entrusting the exhibition to the care of the Midland Horticultural Society,—I have great pleasure in informing you, that the trust was accepted in terms of the most cordial satisfaction, by the gentlemen forming the committee,—a donation of ten pounds from the funds of the society at once voted, as a nucleus to the prize fund, and a special subscription opened, which, before the committee separated, had increased the ten pounds to twenty-five pounds, and which subscription I have full confidence in believing will be largely increased by the aid of liberal friends in the town and neighbourhood. Earnestly desirous to make the meeting as interesting and useful as possible, by the offering of the largest attainable sum in the greatest number of adequate prizes, and at the same time, as becomes my position, feeling the propriety of protecting the gentlemen who honour me by acting with me, from undue responsibility, I take the liberty of asking for a continuance of the support you have hitherto given the society, and shall be particularly obliged if, at your early convenience, you will favour me with a reply. If, in addition to your personal support, you can interest any friends in aid of a society, as I think, so deserving, the obligation will be increased. A draft of the schedule of prizes favourably received by the meeting on the 29th ult., embraces a sum of sixty guineas, in thirty-two prizes for collections, and eighty for single blooms,—thirteen classes, six in each class, with premier carnation and premier picotee,—and I trust this extended list will meet with your approval, and secure your warm co-operation. Waiting the favour of your reply, I am, dear sir, your obedient faithful servant, E. S. Dodwell.—*Derby, Sept. 1st*, 1853."

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DICKSON'S DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.—I am enabled to inform you, that this flower having broken from a lot of mixed breeders, purchased at the sale of Mr. Clarke's tulips, after his death, it is impossible to know how many breeders of this variety (or if any) are at present in existence. It is believed there were but very few originally. Much the greater number of those now in cultivation have been bred from the root grown by Mr. Dickson. But a great number of flowers bearing a strong family likeness to the Duke, and probably from the same pod of seed, continue to break annually, and have been variously named,—Gog, Magog, Milton, Milner's Duke of Devonshire, Sphinx, Orion, Lord Strathmore, &c.—all, however, inferior to the Duke, in the great quality possessed by this latter flower, of standing to the last without melting or flushing.—C. C.

THE TOMATO.—Whether this is ever likely to be of importance as an article of food* I am unable to say, but if our cooks could manage to put it to a few more uses, I think its great productiveness would make it well worth growing under glass. Last autumn, I had a new vinery erected, at the back of which, I planted fig trees, and to fill up the vacant spaces for the first season, I put in five plants of the tomato, from which I began to gather beautifully ripened fruit by the 15th of July; since which time I have continued to gather weekly from three to five dozen of very superior fruit, and have every prospect of doing the same for many weeks to come. I may also add, that the fruit is very superior in flavour to those generally grown out of doors, on a south wall, and very often gathered before half ripe, and laid in a frame to colour.—W. S. M. M.

* In America, they are consumed in great quantities, and have become one of the necessaries of life.—ED.

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Part III.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Your valuable journal gives so much encouragement to amateur seed-saving, that I apply with confidence to you for a few hints on the germinating of verbena seed. I have three or four times sown seed saved by myself, off beds in the open air, but it has never grown, although it seemed very well ripened. It was sown in March, in pans, placed in a frame and hotbed, where I have raised at the same time seedling petunias, dahlias, fuchsias, zinnias, &c. I have some saved this season, from very fine varieties, and am anxious to know if I have any chance of growing it. A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.

[We do not know any reason why you should be unsuccessful with verbenas, except that the seed was imperfect. That they are raised in quantities by a friend of ours, who grows his plants in a greenhouse, we well know. Try again, you may probably be successful next time.]

Will Mr. Wood have the kindness to give a list of twelve best scarlet geraniums, and twelve fancy geraniums?

AN AMATEUR.

TWELVE SCARLET GERANIUMS.

Collinson's Superb	Punch	Judge
Amazon	Tom Thumb	Shrubland Pet
Victoria	Trentham Scarlet	Cerise Unique
Basilisk	Queen of Summer	Defiance

TWELVE FANCY GERANIUMS.

Queen of Fairies	Ambassador	Hero of Surrey
Gipsy Queen	Formosissima	Surprise
Defiance	Wintonia	Miranda
Lady Hume Campbell	Caliban	Criterion

Will you please to give a list of twelve of the best fuchsias, and also a few white ones? UNE BELLE.

DARK FUCHSIAS.

Gem of the Season	Perfection	Hector
Banks's Glory	Purple Perfection	Cartonea
Dr. Lindley	Premier	Nonsuch
Model	Nil desperandum	King Charming

LIGHT FUCHSIAS.

Amy	Incomparable	The Queen
Duchess of Lancaster	Princess	Psyche
England's Glory	Expansion	Elizabeth
Lady Franklin	Beauty of Deal	May Queen

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Will you state what late kitchen apple would be best to bud or graft on a Keswick, twenty years old, west side of Nottingham, to make the handsomest tree, produce the best fruit, and come into bearing the soonest? INQUIRER.

[Spencer's Favourite, or Queen Caroline. This will keep till Christmas.]

MY GARDEN.

No. X.

SEPTEMBER is always a very busy month with the florist, for work accumulates and days shorten; and it is work too that must be done now, for as winter and the dull weather is at hand, "delay is dangerous." Still there is pleasure as well as work, at least to me, for I am a dahlia grower, and an intense admirer of "Autumn's King." Of course I am not ungallant enough to claim for his majesty the charm and grace belonging duly to the justly-styled Queen of Flowers, the rose, still there is, to my taste, a classical beauty about the dahlia, that few other flowers can boast. The season for this flower has not proved so good as I expected, at least my plants (and I believe this is a general complaint) are not so large as usual. Amongst the new flowers I like best, are *Lilac King*, good shape, with fine high centre; *Sir J. Franklin*, buff, first-rate shape; *Miss Caroline*, blush, fine; *Bob*, very fine scarlet; *Plantagenet* is useful; *Amazon*, very constant; *British Queen* has been wretched, coarse petal and bad centre; *Brilliant* has been very coarse and confused, but it was shown so fine last season, that I have hope of it yet; *Queen Victoria* loses the back petals, before the eye has closed, but this is, I think, to be attributed to the season; *Beauty of the Grove* quills too much; *Agnes* is a very good white, and *Queen of Yellows* useful, if not grown too strong; *Duchess of Kent*, yellow and white, is a charming flower, and at the top of its

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class. My pink beds are just now planting. This very pretty flower is easily grown, if the beds are kept well elevated, so that the winter rains may pass off, and plenty of manure is applied; they cannot easily be "overdone." Pansies should be planted at once, that they may get well established by winter. The most bushy plants I always pot, so as to have a few for blooming in the spring, in a cold frame. The blooms produced in this way are earlier and finer than those in the open ground, and the plants are very interesting for exhibition. Auriculas will soon be placed in their winter quarters, and care must be taken that the situation is not a damp one, or they can never be grown successfully. Carnations and picotees should be potted without delay, taking care to secure an ample drainage, and that the soil is not very rich; they require no "driving" for some months to come. Offset tulips should be in the ground by this time, and the bulbs for the main bed carefully arranged. So oft-repeated have been the instructions in the *Midland Florist*, as to the treatment of this gorgeous flower, that I need not enter on the subject here. Verbenas may be kept in cold frames, as near the glass as possible; but they will be much benefitted by occasional applications of sulphur, to prevent the ravages of mildew. Although cinerarias are usually considered greenhouse plants, there can be no doubt they can be grown better in frames or pits, provided the frost do not touch them. They should be kept in a dry place, and repotted as occasion may require, for they will not bear neglect in either of these respects.

The greenhouse will now be in requisition, and no one will find he has too much glass, or any room to spare. If fires are found needful to expel the damp, air must be admitted also, or great injury will be done. Pelargoniums must be watered sparingly. All the specimen plants intended for early shows should be in their blooming pots, and others brought on, as may be required.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. Massey's, Plough Inn, Cale Green, Stockport, June 3.

Maiden Prizes.—1. Charles X., T. Handford. 2. Bienfait, J. Booth
Premier Prize.—Bienfait, T. Green

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., B. Shottin
2 Magnum, J. Clayton
3 Lord Lilford, ditto
4 Savoy, W. Hill
5 Crown Prince, J. Bowden
6 Wellington, ditto
7 Trafalgar, J. Booth
8 Dutch Catafalque, J. Clarke

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, T. Green
2 Polyphemus, J. Clayton
3 Beaute Parfait, J. Clarke
4 Lustre, J. Moores
5 Flame de Guard, J. Warren
6 Charles X., T. Green
7 Liberty, S. Massey
8 Albion, J. Warren

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Clayton
2 La Belle Narene, J. Turner
3 Baguet, T. Handford
4 Washington, T. Green
5 Violet Winner, J. Booth
6 Pyramide d'Egypt, J. Bowden
7 Incomparable, J. Clayton
8 Buckley's 46, T. Fowles

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 La Belle Narene, S. Massey
2 Criterion, T. Green
3 Siam, J. Bowden
4 Pyramide d'Egypt, B. Shottin
5 Bienfait, J. Robinson
6 Alexander Magnus, B. Shottin
7 Unknown, J. Warren
8 Baguet, J. Bakewell

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, J. Clayton
2 Heroine. ditto
3 Walworth, T. Green
4 Dolittle, J. Bowden
5 Hero of the Nile, J. Robinson
6 Comte, J. Bowden
7 Arlette, J. Clayton
8 Duc de Bronte, J. Bowden

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, W. Hill
2 Vesta, J. Hope
3 Aglaia, B. Shottin
4 Rose Guevrier, T. Bullock
5 Triomphe Royal, T. Green
6 Walworth, John Bakewell
7 Unknown, J. Clarke
8 Unknown, J. Booth

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Polyphemus, T. Handford
2 Duke of Hamilton, T. Green
3 Catafalque, J. Clarke
4 Victory, T. Fowles

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Criterion, T. Green
2 Lancashire Hero, J. Clarke
3 Godet Parfait, ditto
4 Clegg's No. 5, T. Green

Rose Breeders.

1 Newcastle, J. Clarke
2 Crewe, ditto
3 Anastasia, J. Clayton
4 Unknown, T. Handford

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Turner
2 White Flag, J. Clarke

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. J. Binns's, the Morning Star, Staley Bridge, June 4.

Colts' Kettle,—Lady Crewe, J. Miller.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Magnum Bonum, Bradley
2 Charles X., Penkthman
3 Crown Prince, Jackson
4 Trafalgar, Penkthman
5 Waterloo, Summers
6 Wellington, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, Collier
2 Lacantique, Bradley
3 Lord Milton, ditto
4 Lustre, Miller
5 Unknown, Collier
6 Unknown, Summers

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, Penkthman
2 Fonce a Fonce, ditto
3 Violet Winner, Shawcross
4 Mango, Penkthman
5 Washington, Summers
6 Ambassador, Shawcross

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Unique, Barratt
2 Tout, Miller
3 Unknown, Bradley
4 Siam, Penkthman
5 Unknown, ditto
6 Fonio, Bradley

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Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, Miller
2 Comte, Barratt
3 Heroine, Penkthman
4 Dolittle, Bradley
5 Walworth, Penkthman
6 Unknown, Jackson

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Vesta, Summers
2 Unknown, Penkthman
3 Unknown, Bradley
4 Roi de Cerise, Binns
5 Vulcan, Miller
6 Rose Regina, Shawcross

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Unknown, Jackson
2 Unknown, Collier

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Unknown, Collier
2 Unknown, Jackson

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. Wm. Duncalf's, Smallthorn, near Burslem, Staffordshire, June 4.

Judges.—Mr. D. Brown, Newcastle-under-Lyme; Mr. T. Boot, Smallthorn.
Kettles.—Polyphemus, Charles X., S Mountford. Anastasia, Bagot, C. Bradshaw. Albion, Charles X., W. Kelsall.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Rufus, S Mountford
2 Charles X., ditto
3 Competitor, ditto
4 Charbonnier, ditto
5 Magnum Bonum, ditto
6 Bord Brougham, W. Kelsall

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, C. Bradshaw
2 Charles X., ditto
3 Royal Sovereign, S. Mountford
4 Albion, C. Bradshaw
5 Pilot S. Mountford
6 San Joe, ditto

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, S. Mountford
2 Duc de Bordeaux, C. Bradshaw
3 Maitre Partout, ditto
4 Great Premier, W. Kelsall
5 Mango, S. Mountford
6 Prince Eli, C. Bradshaw

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Princess Royal, C. Bradshaw
2 Bagot, ditto
3 Britannia, S. Mountford
4 La Balle Narene, ditto
5 Mango, W. Kelsall
6 Queen Charlotte, C. Bradshaw

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Middleton, S Mountford
2 Walworth, C. Bradshaw
3 Comte de Vergennes, ditto
4 Lady Crewe. ditto
5 Unknown, S. Mountford
6 Triomphe Royale, C. Bradshaw

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, C. Bradshaw
2 Duchess of Newcastle, ditto
3 Lady Lilford, ditto
4 Lady Crewe, ditto
5 Lord Hill, S. Mountford
6 Unique, ditto

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Duke of Devonshire, C. Bradshaw
2 Duke of Hamilton, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Maid of Orleans, C. Bradshaw
2 Unknown, ditto

Rose Breeders

1 Catherine, C. Bradshaw
2 Unknown, W. Kelsall

Selfs.

1 White Perfection, C. Bradshaw
2 Min d'Or, ditto

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. Wm. Cork's, Queen's Head Inn, Burslem, Staffordshire, June 4.

Judges.—Mr. D. Brown, Newcastle-under-Lyme; Mr. J. Steele, Rough Wood, near Sandbach, Cheshire.

A pair of silver plated candlesticks, the gift of Mr. Wm. Cork, was awarded to S. Mountford, for a pan of six, containing the following:—Charles X., Polyphemus, Bienfait, Britannia, Comte de Vergennes, and Aglaia.

A silver-plated bed-room candlestick, the gift of Mr. Wm. Cork, was awarded to T. Boot, for a pan of six, containing the following:—Competitor, Pilot, Bienfait, Unique, and Lady Middleton.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Rising Sun, T. Knott
2 Platoff, ditto
3 Charles X., S. Mountford
4 Catafalque, ditto
5 Duc de Savoy, T. Knott
6 Trafalgar, T. Boot

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Royal Sovereign, S. Mountford
2 Pompe Funebre, T. Knott
3 Unknown, S. Mountford
4 Lacantique, ditto
5 Unknown, ditto
6 Charles X., ditto

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Feathered Byblæmens.
1 Washington, S. Mountford
2 Grotius, T. Knott
3 Bienfait, T. Boot
4 La Belle Narene, S. Mountford
5 Princess Charlotte, T. Boot
6 Maitre Partout, S Mountford

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Violet Wallers, S. Mountford
2 Ambassador, T. Boot
3 Van Amburg, T. Knutt
4 Unknown, S. Mountford
5 Pyramide d'Egypt, T. Knott
6 Roi de Siam, S. Mountford

Feathered Roses.
1 Heroine, T. Boot
2 Gaystella, T. Knott
3 Andromeda, S Mountford
4 Duchess of Newcastle, T. Knott
5 Lady Crewe, S. Mountford
6 Comte de Vergennes, T. Boot

Flamed Roses.
1 Aglaia, S. Mountford
2 Duchess of Newcastle, T. Boot
3 Vesta, T. Knott
4 Fairy Queen, T. Boot
5 Triomphe Royale, S. Mountford
6 Lady Crewe, ditto

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Richard Cobden, S. Mountford
2 Hector, T. Knott
3 Dentonian, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Great Western, T. Boot
2 Purple Perfection, ditto
3 Maid of Orleans, S. Mountford

Rose Breeders.
1 Anastasia, S. Mountford
2 Catherine, T. Boot
3 Fairy Queen, Thomas Knott

Selfs.
1 White Flag, T. Boot
2 Min d'Or, T. Knott

PINK SHOW,

At Mr. T. Beech's, Cross Keys Inn, Newcastle-under-Lyme, July 2.

Judges.—Mr. T. Boot, Smallthorn; Mr. H. Penson, Hanchurch.

Purple-laced.
Premier.—Jones' Huntsman, E. Barker
1 Jones's Huntsman, E. Barker
2 Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, W. Griffiths
3 Norris's Blackeyed Susan, ditto
4 Bradshaw's Greensides, R. Moorley
5 Teebay's Thunderer, H. Eaton
6 Norris's Club-ace, E. Barker
7 Telston's Richard Cobden, ditto
8 Seedling, ditto
9 Pearson's Professor, R. Moorley
10 Seedling, ditto

Red-laced.
Premier.—Lee's J. Sturge, E. Barker
1 Etchell's Susanna, W. Griffiths
2 Lee's Joseph Sturge, ditto
3 Martin's Splendens, T. Bailey
4 Moorley's Dorothy, W. Griffiths
5 Brundred's Sir William, ditto
6 Williams's Thirza, W. Griffiths
7 Slater's Lady Antrobus, T. Bailey
8 Seedling, W. Griffiths
9 Jackson's Criterion, H. Eaton
10 Mrs. Slater, ditto

Black and White.
Premier.—Kay's Mary, W. Griffiths
1 Kay's Mary, W. Griffiths
2 Millman's Lilla, R. Moorley
3 Bradshaw's Margaret, E. Barker
4 Fairbrother's Beauty of Blackburn, W Griffiths
5 Baker's Overall, R. Moorley
6 Whalley's Beauty of Clayton, T. Bailey
7 Norris's Blackeyed Susan, R. Moorley
8 Beauty of Home, H. Eaton
9 O'Brien's Virgin Queen, T. Bailey
10 Parry's Union, H. Eaton

PINK SHOW,

At the Three Stags' Heads, Pinstone-street, Sheffield, July 4.

This was one of the largest and best shows of its class ever held in Sheffield. A beautiful silver patent lever watch was presented to H. Barker, for a superior specimen of Burgin's Mango; and a second patent lever watch was awarded to J. Simonite, for a fine specimen of Sturge. The young growers' kettle, for which were substituted Britannia metal teapots of a very superior character, were awarded as follows:—1. G. Lee; 2. A Priest; 3. A. Holland; 4. P. Moore; 5. C. Jackson. The society's cup was awarded to G. Lee.

Purple-laced.
Premier.—Mango, A. Priest
1 Mango, G. Lee
2 Huntsman, T Oxley
3 Jenny Lind, W. Greek
4 Professor, G. Lee
5 Miss Auckland, J. Jackson
6 Elis, W. Powell
7 Suwarrow, C. Calton
8 True Blue, J. Ellison
9 Coronation, ditto
10 Ruby, W. Powell

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Red-laced.
Premier.—Sturge, W. Bell
1 Sturge, G. Lee
2 Lady Antrobus, H. Barker
3 Susanna, A. Nutt
4 Dr. Hepworth, H. Bateman
5 Chatterton's Favourite, J. Simonite
6 Louis Tasso, ditto
7 Dreadnought, J. Ellison
8 Catherine, J. Simonite
9 Baron, S. Prior
10 Fair Maid, S. Knutt

Black and White.
Premier.—Lady Frost, A. Knutt.
1 Lady Frost, J. Simonite
2 Beauty of Home, J. Powell
3 Miss Jessop, Henry Barker
4 Kay's Mary, S. Pryor
5 Snowball W. Powell
6 Virgin Queen, H. Hides
7 Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, ditto
8 Repeal, H. Barker
9 Alfred's Evelyn, H. Hides
10 Blackeyed Susan, A. Priest

Seedlings.
1 Consolation, J. Simonite
2 Rubens, ditto
3 Terror, ditto
4 Standard, ditto
5 Miss Sarah, A. Knutt

LEICESTER SOCIETY OF AMATEUR FLORISTS,

At the Wicliffe Rooms, Leicester, July 6.

ROSES.

Pans of Six.—1. W. Mitchell, with Stadtholder, Dr. Marx, Princess Clementine, Prince Albert, Chenedole, and Coupe d'Hebe. 2. H. Bates, with Brennus, Souvenir de Malmaison, Sidonia, Chenedole, Madame Zoutman, and Geant des Batailles. 3. T. J. Wheeler, Esq., with Mrs. Bosanquet, Ville des Londres, Geant des Batailles, Chenedole, Stadtholder, and Madame Laffay. 4. R. Marris, with Coupe de Hebe, Charles Duval, Devigne, Souvenir de Malmaison, Villa des Londres, and Jaques Lafitte. 5. G. Hudson, with Geant des Batailles, Duchess of Sutherland, Baron Prevost, Madame Souchet, Geant des Batailles, and Queen of Bourbons. 6. J. D. Hextall, with Madame Laffay, Duchess of Sutherland, Baron Prevost, Madame Souchet, Geant des Batailles, and Mrs. Bosanquet.

Pans of Three.—1. F. W. Hollyoake, Ernestine Meillez, Boula de Nantieul, Robin Hood. 2. J. T. Wheeler, Esq., with Baron Hallez, Mrs. Elliott, and Devoniensis. 3. J. D. Hextall, with, Charles Duval, Baron Prevost, and Geant des Batailles. 4. R. Marris, with Baron Prevost, Souvenir de Malmaison, and Ville des Bruxelles. 5. H. Bates, with Princess Clementine, Augustine Mouchlette, and Geant des Batailles. 6. G. Hudson, with Lady Alice Peel, Charles Duval, and Geant des Batailles.

Pan of Three Moss Roses.—H. Bates, Crested Moss, Lanii, Mossue Perrue.

PINKS

Pans of Six.—1. R. Marris, Jones's Huntsman, Lola Montes, Criterion, Marris's Theresa, and two seedlings, Fanny and Geraldine. 2. G. Hudson, with Marris's Emmeline, Read's Jenny Lind, Hudson's Triumphant, Sarah Ann, and seedling, and Hollyoake's Lord Berners. 2. F. W. Hollyoake, with Read's Ada, Bertha, and Jenny Lind, Turner's Hebe, Etchell's Susanna, and seedling. 4. J. D. Hextall, with Jones's Huntsman, Willmer's Laura, Southern's Agitator, Marris's Fanny, Marris's seedling, and Unknown. 5. W. Mitchell, with Marris's Adelaide, Joseph Sturge, Criterion, Kerr's Harriet, and two seedlings.

Pans of Three.—1. R. Marris, with Lola Montes, Turner's Esther, and Marris's Theresa. 2. W. Mitchell, with Marris's Theresa, Criterion, and seedling. 3. G. Hudson, with Mrs. Herbert, Triumphant, and seedling. 4. H. Bates, with Criterion, Marris's Emeline, and Isabella.

Purple-laced.
1 Hollyoake's Lord Berners, G. Hudson
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Marris's Angelina, R. Marris
4 Lowder's Flora, ditto
5 Turner's Sarah, ditto
6 Legge's Prince Albert, G. Hudson
7 Joseph Sturge, R. Marris
8 Jones's Huntsman, ditto

Red-laced.
1 Lola Montes, R. Marris
2 Sarah Ann, G. Hudson
3 Laura, W. Mitchell.
4 Turner's Arthur, R. Marris
5 Laura, W. Mitchell
6 Joseph Sturge, ditto
7 Sir Harry Smith, ditto
8 Emmeline, R. Marris

Black and White.
1 Unknown, G. Hudson
2 Unknown, J. D. Hextall
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Kay's Mary, ditto
5 Beauty of Clayton, ditto
6 Kay's Mary, ditto
7 Beauty of Home, ditto

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Part I.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

MIDLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THERE being no carnations and picotees, on the 1st of August, when the exhibition of the society took place, simultaneously with the anniversary fete of the Derby arboretum, to compensate for their absence,—otherwise not felt, for the exhibition was the finest ever seen in the midland counties,—the committee announced a special display would take place, a week later, in Mr. Dodwell's garden, to be open gratuitously to all admirers of the flowers. Accordingly at the appointed time we attended, to aid with our voice in the apportioning the honours among the respective contributors, and to enjoy the treat our friend, with his usual liberality, had placed at the disposal of the society,—and as gossip on these flowers is at all times interesting to a great majority of our readers, and now that the National is fairly afloat, will be of service to those desirous of obtaining a share of its honours, we intend to give here a short account of our visit. Those of our readers who know our friend, will readily enough imagine that a "special display" having being announced, some little effort had been made to satisfy those who availed themselves of the privilege to inspect the collection, and we assure them the effort was thoroughly successful. Set out under a neat awning—carnations on one side, and picotees on the other—every bloom neatly carded, and so fastened to the stake as to arrest the eye whichever way it turned, and all the advantages of light and contrast judiciously employed to develope the full beauty of the dense

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colours or delicate tints in the subjects treated, the *tout ensemble* was such as could not but elicit the fullest satisfaction. Nor was effect overlooked on the table upon which the cut blooms were displayed, extemporized as it was upon a large garden frame. The deep green of the baize with which it was covered and surrounded, acted as an admirable foil to the brilliant colours displayed upon it,—all the formality of the flowers again being dissipated and relieved by the introduction of mosses and ferns, kindly sent by Mr. Bayley. Altogether it was a little gem of an exhibition, set with admirable taste. And we dwell thus upon it, because it is high time that florists,—or persons supposed to be florists,—felt all the horrors of bare tables, or the incongruities of rough and dirty bottles, and these again of all shapes and sizes. Floriculture fairly treated will recommend itself to all, but it is natural that it should be disowned, if not derided, where its public displays are to be found associated with so much that is repulsive, and altogether opposed to that which is graceful and true in taste. But to our notes. First in scarlet bizarres was Admiral Curzon, not only unbeaten, but to our thinking unbeatable. We never saw it finer. Then in a cluster were Sir Joseph Paxton, Rembrandt, Sir Robert Peel, and Lord Lewisham. Paxton capital for marking and shape of petal, hardly so high in the crown as it should be. Rembrandt first-rate in form and petal, and of full size, wanting only in the refinement of Curzon. Sir Robert Peel exceedingly refined, but rather small, and the petals a little too narrow. Lord Lewisham dense and rich in colour, a fine flower. True Briton was bright, attractive, and of full size. Captain Edwards, pretty. Ringleader, as seen, nowhere to Curzon, but indicating a good flower too. It appears to be a very indifferent grower.

In crimson bizarres, Lord Milton stood first. First-rate in its quality, form of petal, and marking, we had never seen it better. Black Diamond came

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close upon it. Jenny Lind splendidly marked, but hardly sufficiently expanded, being late. Rubens (Bayley) first-rate in form and petal, and a beat upon Duke of Bedford. Captain Franklin wanted bizarre, and is too long in the petal. William IV., and a seedling of Mr. D.'s, much like it, were in fine condition, and contrasted well with the darker varieties in the colours. Warrior (Slater) is all that could be wished for colour and marking; the petal is a little too narrow, and unfortunately it is a very shy grower.

In pink and purples, Falconbridge was superb. Large, and full of colour dense and rich. Sarah Payne exquisite—delicacy itself. These varieties should be cultivated everywhere.

Purple flakes were fine. We still want a beat upon our old favourites, Premier and Squire Meynell, and we really think we shall for some time to come, continue to want. They were superb. Often as we have seen them, we think we never before saw them so good. Rachel (Dodwell) is a refined, full-sized flower, worthy to be ranked with the above, and that is high praise. Beauty of Woodhouse most beautiful for its white and colour. Lord Byron well marked and of good size. Netherwood's Companion is a fine grower, and of good size, but wants finish and refinement. A seedling of Mr. Hartley's is a fine bold flower, and striking for its colour, but too confused in the centre, and wanting in substance of petal. Another seedling, grown for trial, from Mr. Bower, of Bradford, has some good points about it, but the petal is rather angular.

In scarlet flakes, Cradley Pet was fine, larger than we have generally seen it, and full of colour. Firebrand ex. ex., fairly disputing the palm with the Pet. Justice Shallow too pinky in the white, but of fine substance and first-rate petal. Queen Victoria was good. King of Scarlets is too narrow in the petal; the white and colour very superior. Buckley's Scarlet, a novelty here, has some good points about it. Bower's seedling is too much like Firebrand, and no improve-

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ment upon it. Lady Rhodes (so called) is (here) certainly nothing but Addenbrook's Lydia. Comet (Hepworth) is thin enough, but what there is of it is good, the petals being well shaped and regularly marked.

Amongst rose flakes, Ariel, Flora's Garland, Friar Lawrence, Haidee, Lorenzo, Lady Ely, Lovely Ann, Magnificent, Madame Sontag, Poor Tom, and Rose Helen were especially fine. Friar Lawrence has a splendid petal, and is full of colour, but is not so refined as some of the others. Poor Tom is a superb sort, Rose Helen is something like Ariel, *and is, we think, a beat upon it.* The older varieties were as fine as could well be imagined. Hartley's seedling is a promising, high-coloured, and well-marked flower; but for a little serrature on the edges of the petals, it would be very prominent.

The picotees were surpassingly luxuriant. This tribe of plants being almost entirely free from the sportiveness belonging to the carnation, a fine head of bloom may almost invariably be calculated upon, and the generally vigorous growth consequent upon this younger life of the leading varieties,—for it is a rare thing to find a *leading* variety more than two or three seasons *out*—makes their management a matter of easy attainment.

In heavy reds, Mrs. Norman was superb—large, and magnificently marked, with a lustrous white of the richest description. Prince of Wales exquisite—in fact, we hardly know which is the A 1. Giulio Romano is a gem, small, but all that could be desired for quality and marking. Hogarth, clear, bright, and pretty. Old Isabella still capital,—May's dark break is the best. Elizabeth (Robinson) makes a fine sort in the back ground, being so constant and prolific in flower. King James was inimitable for colour,—seems to get finer as he ages. Esther (Bayley) is first-rate in form, large, and very regularly marked, but the white is injured by a multiplicity of spots on the under side of the petal. Ann (Schofield) is a

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promising thing, much in the way of Mrs. Bevan, but better. Christabel we don't like, the petal is so narrow. Yorkshire Hero, shown in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and in Lancashire, as a light-edge, comes here quite heavy. Lady Macbeth was sadly muddled; in fact, the colour had run all over the petal, a result probably due to the cool and moist atmosphere which had so long prevailed. In light-edged varieties, Miss Holbeck was decidedly first; full-sized, of fine quality, and without a spot. Gem was ex. ex., though small. We were sorry to learn Miss Holbeck is a poor grower.

In heavy purples, Alfred still leads the class; for smoothness, substance, and quality, it is unequalled. Duke of Rutland, extra fine in form, follows closely upon Alfred's heels. King of Purples has one of the finest petals we ever saw. Lady H. Moore was as fine as we ever saw it; in fact, one of the finest. There were also Prince Arthur, Princess Alice, and Lord Nelson, all good. Duke of Devonshire (Bayley) and Countess (Fellowes) are noble broad heavies, and thoroughly distinct. No collection can be complete without them. Bianca (May) is a sweet flower, not so regularly marked as we like, but with a fine petal, and most admirable white. Kaye's Queen, supposed to be a beat upon Alfred, wont do. It is too flat, and the centre petals are wanting in smoothness.

The light purples beat all we had ever seen in the class. Haidee undoubtedly the queen; then Bridesmaid, Ganymede, and Ophelia defied us to define their respective positions. Princess Helena too must be grown with the others,—it is thoroughly first-rate. Bower's heavy purple wont do, the white is not good, and the petal is crumpled, and much confused in the centre.

In the light rose class, Mrs. Barnard was quite alone in her glory, and long we fear she will remain alone, for we don't see how she can be excelled. In the heavy-edged varieties there were several fine

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additions. May's Calliope is an exquisitely delicate thing; colour a light rose, shaded with lilac. Julia has a stout well-shaped petal, regularly margined with a rosy buff. Rosalind, though thin, is a fine sort for exhibition, being very distinct and clean. Unexpected and Victoria Regina, two varieties of Mr. Marris's, are both first-rate. Of the old flowers, Miss Rosa, Princess Royal, and Venus, were in admirable condition—the latter indeed inimitable. Mr. Adams's seedling, Mary Elizabeth, is a very pretty variety, but being an early bloomer, we saw a side bloom only. In Mr. Bayley's stand of carnations, in addition to those we have already noticed, there was a fine scarlet flake (Titian), a seedling from Addenbrook's Lydia, but a great advance upon that old variety. Of Mr. Bayley's flowers we cannot speak too highly. Had Mr. Dodwell put out his strength, instead of retaining his best flowers (in the carnations) uncut, he might have changed places with his friend, but it would have been a close race.

An immense number of visiters plainly showed the interest felt in these exhibitions; and it added largely to our gratification, to observe in the testimony thus unequivocally expressed, that whenever an effort, untiring and earnest, is made to enlist the sympathies of the public,—wherever there may be a full observance of engagements implied,—the confidence and support of the public will invariably follow. What has been done in Derby (one of the smallest of our county towns), with the same care and quiet perseverance, may be done elsewhere; and what has been done we can recite in a few words. "Seven years since, in the face of much disheartening jealousy and dissension, the society was originated, and at its first exhibition, from the failure of those who promised co-operation, fell at once thirty pounds into debt. This debt has been paid off—forty pounds worth of baize and other necessaries purchased—three hundred and ninety pounds paid in prizes—three hundred and fifty pounds in expenses—and now, at the close of

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the seventh year, the society has an income of one hundred pounds from annual subscriptions, has paid off every liability, and has thirty pounds in hand." Three times in its short history, the society has had the care of aggregate exhibitions,—the "trial" exhibition and the "towns" exhibition of carnations and picotees, and the national tulip exhibition,—and now, for the coming season, it is entrusted with the meeting of the National Carnation and Picotee Society. We have recorded the enthusiasm with which that trust has been accepted, and past results afford the best guarantee of the integrity and energy with which it will be conducted, and the splendid spectacle which will be realized. What has thus been done, as to a great extent it has been done, by one *florist*, uninfluential and unpretending, may be repeated by hundreds, and we trust our pages will in the future contain many records of their proceedings.

A FEW REMARKS ON THE PINK.

BY FLORISTA.

THE question has often occurred to me why the pink should not be more extensively cultivated than it is. It cannot be that it lacks good qualities, as I am acquainted with no class of flowers more entitled to merit than it is. The perfume is delicious, and the colours especially attractive; the lacing is unique, and shape excellent; and its cultivation withal is very simple. With such a combination of good properties, it naturally became an especially enticing object in the hands of the florist; and it has long been designated the "poor man's" flower; and it is also one which, with a slight degree of attention, would reflect no disgrace on the "rich man's" parterre.

In my opinion, the greatest bar to its general cultivation is the dissimilarity of tastes evinced by

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the growers in the different districts, as to what should constitute a standard, by which its properties should be tested; some contending that the flower should be large and full; others prefering a flower containing scarcely two rows of petals,—in fact, a mere skeleton of a bloom; others admiring a "white margin," whilst some as pertinaciously maintain that the lacing ought to extend to the extremity of the petals. Again we find some cultivators insisting upon a good "moon!" and others admiring a bold "eye!!" How can perfection be arrived at whilst such a diversity of tastes exist? The southern growers altogether discard the northern-raised varieties, because they are infinitely too small and insignificant; and on the other hand, the northern florists deprecate a southern flower, because it is generally too full of petals, and, without some degree of attention, apt to burst,—a fault which does not belong to the northern varieties, and, I may now add, is fast disappearing from the southern-raised sorts. Again, the southern florists,—and I may appropriately add the "midlanders" in the category,—insist upon a perfectly *rose-leaf* petal, that is, without serrature or indentation, or as as nearly approaching that form as can be obtained; whilst the northern florists, although they may prefer a rose-leaf, really admit too many in their collection whose petals are serrated or fringed. The improvement effected in the petal of the northern varieties is very trifling, as it is an incontrovertible fact, that at the present day, many of their flowers have fringed or serrated petals. The midland and southern growers have effected a rapid improvement in the new varieties they have originated from seed, the greater part of their seedlings possessing rose petals, in the full sense of its meaning; and we may fruitlessly search for the "strap-shaped" and "spade-pointed" petals which characterized this class of flowers in bygone days, and which now only exist in the imagination, as things that were. I can avouch, without fear of

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contradiction, that a new race of flowers may shortly be anticipated, both as regards size, shape, and lacing. The "haycock" and "mop" flowers have for some time been banished from the southern exhibition stages, and their places are now occupied with improved varieties, whose centres are not filled with imperfectly-formed and unsightly petals, but with those that will dress as well as a carnation or picotee. On the principle that "a good horse is of a good colour," I aver that a pink, if all its other qualities are good, ought not to be condemned, if the lacing and eye differ in their intensity of colouring. It does sometimes occur that the lacing is of a paler colour than the eye, but the closer they assimilate the better.

In an article on the pink, in the *Florist*, for last August, is this passage. "The northern growers begin to appreciate a few more petals in their flowers than formerly; the result of which is, there is now only an imaginary difference in the taste of the sothern and northern growers." May I be permitted to inquire what steps can be taken to remove this "imaginary difference?" I was led to understand that a vast dissimilarity of taste existed between the northern and southern florists, on the properties of the carnation and picotee, which the trial echibitions of the year 1850 tended in no small degree to remove; then why should we not have a trial exhibition to define the properties of the pink? Such, I apprehend, would in a great measure tend to remove prejudices and old-fashioned opinions, and would be the means of introducing the modern varieties into more general cultivation.

The following are new varieties that ought to be extensively grown, and with care in hybridizing, will produce a new race of flowers.

Mrs. Judd (Turner).—A nice compact flower, and not too full. Its petals would have been better had they been more circular; as a counterbalance to this, however, they are perfectly smooth. Lacing dark, and white clear. This is a very desirable variety, and it approximates more to the northern style than any southern-raised pink I know. Not being too

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full of petals, it is easily bloomed, and when fully expanded, they imbricate without confusion. In colour, the lacing and eye are of a similar shade.

Constance (Turner).—This is rather a full flower, with petals beautifully rounded and slightly cupped, edges smooth, white good and clear, red lace, but rather too full of colour.

Harry (Turner).—A fine, bold, full flower. Petals good and smooth, dark lace, pure white, and of good size.

Phœnix (Turner).—Rather a full flower, with perfectly rose-leaf petals of fine form. Colour dark red lace, good white, and of fair size.

Esther (Turner).—Decidedly the best of Mr. Turner's seedlings, sent out by him last autumn. It has fine large petals, of first-rate shape, white beautifully clear, with a lively red lace. Had it a few more petals, to form a crown, it would be the finest pink we have; as it is, it is a trifle to thin, but is a very desirable variety to breed from, and I have no doubt it will be the parent of something good.

Sarah (Turner).—A striking flower,—a variety that captivates the eye at first sight, but on a more minute inspection, its fault is obvious. It has a splendid colour, which is a beautiful shade of cherry red; clear white, and is a moderately full flower. Here my commendations must end, for truth compels me to add, that the form of its petal is not so desirable as we could wish to see at the present day; it does not possess that beautifully rounded leaf which adds so much to the symmetry of a flower, but, on the contrary, its petals are a trifle too long, and rather narrow, and they are also slightly serrated. Yet, notwithstanding this drawback, I shall not discard it.

Beauty of Salthill (Turner).)—A flower of good shape and size, tolerably full, good petal, well laced with deep red, pure white, the eye and lacing corresponding in colour. A white margin intervenes between the edge of the petal and lacing of this variety.

Ada (Read.)—This is a gem indeed,—a decided improvement on Jenny Lind, and was raised by the same grower. It has a perfect rose-leaf petal, beautiful dark lacing and eye of a corresponding colour, and a pure ivory white. It is a flower possessing first-rate qualities, and may be admitted into the most select collection.

Bertha (Read).—Similar to the preceding, though hardly so refined, and may be grown with it; but Ada is my favourite.

Angelina (Marris).—This variety was sent out last autumn. Its origin is unknown, but that is of no consequence. Petals perfectly rose-leaved, lacing exceedingly constant, colour red, and white good. It is a full flower. This variety will be particularly appreciated by the northern cultivators, being quite in their style, but with a far greater quantity of petals

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than is generally found in their flowers. It is a luxuriant grower.

Theresa (Marris).—This variety is a cross between Young's XX and Cant's Criterion, and attains a large size. Petals perfectly rose-leaved, colour red, white good. This and the last-described sort may be bloomed with very little trouble, each having excellent pods. This variety is of more delicate growth than Angelina.

Diadem (Marris).—A seedling, being sent out for the first time this season. It is a finely-formed flower, and will be a decided favourite. Petals rose-leaved, and broadly laced with a dark lacing. The colour is in the style of the Hon. Mrs. Herbert. I am informed it is of a good habit of growth.

ON SOWING TULIP SEED.

In the *Midland Florist* for 1848, p. 54, J. B. asserts that experience has proved that the spring is a much better time for sowing tulip seed than autumn or winter. For a number of years I had been in the habit of sowing tulip seed about the last week in January, and generally had been successful, but from J. B.'s recommendation, and a desire to improve, I have for the last three years sown my seed at three different times, viz., the latter end of January, February, and March. I divided my seed into three equal parts, and that sown the latter end of January has, on the average of three years, produced more than double the quantity of bulbs than that sown the latter end of March; and had also the advantage in weight, arising, I conclude, from their keeping in a vegetative state for a longer period than those sown in March. The seed sown in February produced a greater number by one-third than that sown in March, which proves to me the advantage of January sowing, and will be my guide in future, unless it can be shown by a majority of those who have tried spring sowing, that their results have been widely different from my own. I give J. B. full credit for his good intention, but regret he had not taken a longer time to test what he recommends, before

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giving it to the world; for it may so happen, from some fortuitous circumstance, that the result of one year may be very different from that of a series of three or four years. My great object in giving the upshot of my trial is, to call forth the results of others who may have tried spring sowing; for "in a multitude of counsellors there is safety."

Tulip seed takes a long time to germinate, seldom making its appearance above ground in less than six or eight weeks; and if sown in January, comes up about the middle of March, when, if protected from dry cutting winds, it derives great benefit from the genial warmth of the morning sun, which at this time is not so likely to scorch or dry up the new-born plants, as at a later period, besides giving them a longer time to grow than those sown in March; for the heat of summer will surely shorten their time of growth, which gives, in my opinion, a decided advantage to January sowing.

I. H.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF HYACINTHS.

BY ALPHA.

No. III.

Bouquet d'Orange (Double Yellow) has a claim to be kept in cultivation, on account of its being a good trussing variety. The colour is a curious admixture of salmon and buff, with stout foliage, and stem rising to a fair height. It is a very useful flower for contrast, but certainly does not belong to class A.

Bouquet Triumphant. (Single Red.)—We have here presented to our notice a flower possessed of many attractive points. It trusses remarkably well; the colour is a pale pink, with a distinct deep rose stripe down the centre of each petal; the bells are a trifle too long, but stand well out on the stem, and form a close truss; the foliage is rather weak. When well grown, it is a striking variety on a bed.

Blucher. (Single Blue.)—Where a good trussing flower is required, irrespective of other properties, this sort may be safely introduced into a collection. The colour is a dark shining puce, and the whole plant stands well out in showy display.

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It is a bold conspicuous variety, and being of a different shade to the majority of blues in cultivation, will be particularly useful. The petals of the bells are, however, too narrow.

Bonaparte. (Double Blue.)—This is a late variety, forming a large but somewhat loose truss, and bears a slight resemblance to Keizer Alexander, hereafter mentioned, and although it is far beneath that flower in sterling properties, yet, in the early stages of its growth, they might readily be taken for one and the same variety.

Comte de la Costé. (Double White.)—A flower which, from its curious appearance when in bloom, is sure to have many admirers. The bells are a clear white, distinctly tipped with a lovely green, which imparts a singular yet truly attractive character. It appears of a very delicate habit, as it produces only a small bulb, and the foliage is weak. I imagine it will be found a difficult task to keep this variety in health.

Fanny Kemble. (Single Red.)—Its chief point of attraction is the good dense truss which it generally produces. The colour is a pale rose, with a light carmine stripe down the centre of each petal. It is of a lively warm tint, and reflexes well, but the petals are not of sufficient width.

Grand Vidette. (Single White.)—We have now an opportunity of describing a truly splendid variety. It is indeed a lovely flower, of admirable properties, which are strikingly developed; it is also powerfully fragrant, and of snowy whiteness, and the bells are large and well formed. The only apparent drawback, if such it can be considered, arises from the footstalks of some of the lower bells being too long, which creates a trifling irregularity at the base of the flower, when it is fully expanded. It is, however, worthy of a place in the most select collections, and is a sort that every one should cultivate.

Globe Celeste. (Double Blue.)—This flower was much cheaper thirty years since than at the present time. It appears rather a late variety, but, from its imposing colour, is a very attractive flower on a bed. It is a lively, bright mottled azure, with bells of a fair size, standing well out on the stem, but they do not reflex to my taste; the truss is under the standard. It should, however, be grown.

Keizer Alexander. (Double Blue.)—We have now to describe an old variety, of delicate habit, but commanding rather a high price, yet possessing in a great degree the essential qualifications of a first-rate variety. The colour is a bright indigo, with bold broad petals, but the truss is clearly too short; it has a beautiful dark eye, surrounded with a lighter shade; it is of medium size, and should therefore be planted on the outside row of the bed. This variety is very tardy in its increase, which probably accounts for its high price.

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Candeur. (Single White.)—A low-priced, but by no means inferior flower; on the contrary, it is worthy of general cultivation. The flower-stem is short and erect, and surrounded by a dense head of finely-formed bells; the petals are broad, and sufficiently reflexed; it is also a vigorous grower; it has a yellow centre, and the footstalks are of the same colour as the flower.

Lord Byron. (Single Red.)—The tint of this flower is a vivid crimson lake, which alone gives it the least pretension to a place in any select collection. It may be found useful in relieving the extreme sameness which characterises so many of the blush varieties usually classed as red, and in this light only will it be found a useful flower; in fact, it can only be tolerated for contrast of colour. The petals are miserably narrow, and it lacks the property of reflexing well. Although classed as a single variety, it is not strictly so, some of the strongest bells at times coming semidouble. The stem is strong and erect, the foliage of a sombre shade of green, and when very young, it is deeply tinted with a mulberry shade; this, however, will be found to recede as the flower-stem advances, so that when fully bloomed, only a faint trace of this singular appearance remains.

Madame Marmont (Double Blue), although not faultless, is really a decidedly attractive variety. It produces large and imposing flowers, of a delicate pale azure, with fine dark florets; it reflexes well, but the outline was not first-rate; the petals are rather narrow. When fully expanded, it is really a beautiful flower, and continues a long time in bloom. It ought to be generally cultivated.

Marco Bozzaris (Double Blue) is a double flower, of a peculiar tint of colour, being of a lavender-blue shade. It trusses well, but the bells are too small; it produces a good head of flowers, and where space is not an object, may be safely grown for the sake of contrast.

Prince Albert. (Single Dark Blue.)—A princely designation is here worthily appended to a magnificent variety; a more striking flower of its colour is rarely met with. The truss is dense in the extreme, and of extraordinary size; the colour is an intense dark puce or indigo. It is a truly noble specimen, and its commanding appearance will ensure for it a place in all collections.

Professor Lindley. (Double Red.)—This is another of *Mynheer's* meritorious introductions, possessing some very excellent properties. In colour, it approaches closely to that old standard variety, Groot Vorst, but, unlike that flower, it is rather deficient in outline; it reflexes well, and appears to expand freely, which is an important point in all double flowers; the bells are thick and fleshy in substance, and have

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a beautiful waxy tint. This variety may with great confidence be recommended for general cultivation.

Queen of England. (Double Red.)—Although a transcendent title is given to this newly-introduced variety, it does not bloom in the splendour required by the name selected. Its habit of expanding seems very tardy. Probably the temperature of a greenhouse might cause it to open freely. The stem is strong and erect, with bells of a good substance, but far too pendulous; neither does it reflex well. Some of the uppermost flowers are tipped with green, but I much doubt whether this is a permanent feature. It has a fine bright mulberry-coloured eye, and the interior of the flowers is of a much deeper shade of colour than the outside. I do not think the flower sufficiently meritorious for the designation given.

Rousseau. (Single White.)—Single waxy blush would have been a more appropriate description of the colour of this noble flower. The bells are large and bold, but too elongated, and it does not appear to reflex well. The flowers are certainly too pendulous, but as a striking variety it merits a place in every bed.

Tubal Cain. (Single Black.)—This sort is tolerably correct as to the colour usually described black in the catalogues. As it is last on my list, I shall merely add, that being without a single good property, it is also the last I should again be induced to plant. It is a variety not worth cultivating.

In concluding my third descriptive list of these beautiful subjects, I wish to state, that my notes were made from the flowers when in bloom, from roots purchased from respectable seedsmen; and relying on the correctness of the sorts furnished, I strongly advise persons fond of hyacinths, to select from the dealers' catalogues such sorts as I have *recommended*, feeling confident they will not disappoint.

A FEW REMARKS ON ENGLISH AND SCOTCH HOLLYHOCKS.

THERE is no flower that at present is attracting more of the florists' attention than the hollyhock, and certainly none has higher claims on his regard. Many of our fine florist's flowers, to the uninitiated, are barely attractive: not so the hollyhock. Its

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stately appearance, the variety and brilliancy of the colours of its flowers, must strike even the most casual observer with admiration, and constitute it an established and popular favourite. How it came to be thrown aside, and grown in any out-of-the-way corner, for so long, is a question I will not at present enter upon. Certainly the less said on the subject the better, as it reflects very small credit on the gardening community in general. Within the last few years, our favourite has been valiantly rescued from the obscurity into which it had fallen, and to the late Mr. Barron, of Saffron Walden, the credit is due, for his successful attempts to improve the race by hybridization. Many other florists have followed in his footsteps, with more or less success, and the hollyhock is now destined to attain a proud position among the treasures of the cultivators of Flora. There are two distinct strains of hollyhocks, the English and the Scotch. The English do not consider size such an essential point as the Scotch, but want a more double and symmetrical whole, and a dwarfer habit in the plant. The Scotch again consider that a hollyhock ought to have a narrower guard petal, a higher ball, and altogether greater size than exists in the English varieties. No one can doubt that great progress has been made in the improvement of the hollyhock, by the growers of both countries. If the English flowers, in point of form, delicacy of colour, and general habit, have the start of the Scotch, certainly the latter, for brilliancy of colour, and as objects in the flower garden, will bear no near comparison beside their floral rivals. The great aim of the Scotch growers ought to be, by judicious hybridizing, to obtain that symmetrical proportion and neatness which forms so pre-eminent a property of the English flower, grafted on the size and beauty of colour which the Scotch flowers already possess. Then we may expect to attain to a perfection that may have already dawned on the imagination of the few. Every one must

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allow that the English flowers, as they stand, to the man of taste and discrimination as a florist, are most desirable. I have, however, to mention a circumstance that in some degree detracts from their excellence in Scotland. It is simply this, that our climate, north of the Tweed, is of the most variable character, and we are not favoured with so much of the brilliant sunshine that is bestowed on our southern neighbours, consequently some of our English flowers, this season, have opened partially and with great difficulty. This causes me to revert to what I have already stated, how very desirable it would be that our Scotch flowers should be judiciously hybridized with pollen from the English varieties. Then we may expect a plant more suited to our climate, and combining all the good qualities that a hollyhock ought to possess. At the great hollyhock exhibition, that took place in Edinburgh, on the 10th of September last, a good opportunity was afforded of observing the English and Scotch flowers alongside of each other. It would be invidious to particularize varieties, but I cannot refrain from noticing among English sorts, that Poupre de Tyre, Joan of Arc, Cream of the Valley, Meteor, Triumphant, and Penelope were in the van in the competition. The two best Scotch flowers in the room were Marquis of Tweedale and Sir David Dundas, seedlings of Messrs. Downie & Laird, and of first-rate qualities. Mr. Paul, of Cheshunt, had a superb display of seedlings of his own; and indeed the whole exhibition was a rich treat to the lover of the hollyhock, and reflected great credit on the exhibiters in general.

ALTHAEA, AN AMATEUR GROWER.

VILLAGE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

WE have read with extreme pleasure an account of the village horticultural society held at Hitcham, under the superintendence of the Rev. Professor

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Henslow; for we know of few things more calculated to humanise, and raise the moral tone of the lower classes of society, than encouraging similar displays. We lately had occasion to notice the exhibition at Hereford, where possibly the most interesting part was the cottagers' division. There is no reason why there should not be a horticultural society in every village in the kingdom. Let but the clergyman, as in the case of the Rev. Professor above alluded to, take it up, and we are confident that abundance of aid, in the way of funds, would be speedily obtained; and we well know that the precepts which, in his spiritual capacity, he from time to time enforces, would meet with a more grateful appreciation, by those who felt benefited in a worldly point of view by the kindness of their minister. We hold a very strong opinion, on the advantages, to the labouring population, of cottage allotments, and village exhibitions. Wherever there is a national or village school-room, there the exhibition should be held; and there also should be established in connection a library and reading room, with a good fire during the autumn and winter months, and to be open three or four nights in the week. There also we would encourage a taste for natural history; for how often do labourers, when employed in their outdoor avocations, meet with rare insects or their chrysali. We have now at Nottingham an entomological society, established by a number of working men, whose collection of insects is very respectable; and similar societies might be established everywhere. By this means the horticulturist, as well as the florist, would become acquainted with the insects injurious to vegetation, and consequently be better able to curtail their depredations, by knowing their enemies in whatever state they might appear. For instance, few florists or cottagers who may have their carnations, pinks, or pansies destroyed by the wireworm, or their early potatoes pierced and defaced by the same intrusive insect, know that it is the produce of eggs laid by a small

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black-looking beetle, which, when disturbed or frightened, will feign to be dead, and when laid on its back, by a powerful jerk of its head, throws a summersault, and alights on its legs. Did they know the insect in that state, and destroyed it, how much loss and mortification would be avoided. In addition to societies of this kind, we would in connection have a village band, who should have the school-room twice a week, to practise in. Some of our readers may smile, and exclaim, What! make plough lads musicians? And why not? we ask. It would have been a nice, a delightful addition to the enjoyment of the day at Hitcham, to have had a band of this description, whose services on similar occasions, and at other periods of rustic rejoicing, would, we are sure, be highly appreciated. And here some old distich comes familiarly to our mind.

> "Music hath charms that soothes the savage breast,
> Softens rocks, and bends the knotted oak."

We know not how far the latter part has been realized, but the truth of the former is patent to the world. And if, in their leisure hours, *plough lads*, or any *other lads*, devoted themselves to the acquirement of music, instead of lounging away their time at the "smithy," or worse places, does any one for a moment dispute its having an ameliorating influence on their minds and habits? They would plough equally well, even did they play the trombone or French horn. We know that there are thousands of men round Nottingham, Sheffield, Derby, and many towns in Lancashire, who devote their leisure time to their gardens, and who, amongst themselves, have their shows for gooseberries, pinks, rhubarb, &c.; and after their confinement in factories, whilst they are cultivating their plants and vegetables, breathe the pure air so necessary to health, and thus invigorate their frames.

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Part II.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

CALCEOLARIAS.—H.M.—No. 6. Yellow ground, with bold light brown markings, edged with dark; a fine flower. 22. Cream, blotched with plum; very fine. 34. Fine yellow, with small spots round the throat; the marks on the centre of the bloom are extremely singular. 27. Buff, crimson blotches; good. 14. A splendid flower, bold in character, rich, and beautiful. Your collection was very good, but the above were our favourites.

DAHLIAS.—C. L.—Your yellow flower, called *Mary*, has some good points, in being deep, fine in colour, and good in the centre. The petals would be better had they a little more roundness. *Miss Hooley*, we like the petals of this flower better than the preceding, and we fancy it to be a promising sort.

W. W.—Your scarlet seedlings, not being fastened in the box, were much bruised. The blooms sent, from what we could see of them, promise well, still, from the state they were in, we could not give a decided character.

FUCHSIA.—G. M.—*Duke of Wellington*, sepals broad and stout, rich deep scarlet, the points of which reflex, and touch the seed vessel. Corolla rosy violet. This fine variety, as far as our recollection serves us, has considerable affinity to a sort we have before had submitted to us, under the name of *Trentham*.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

PÆONIA MOUTAN. (THE TREE PÆONY.)

FOR some years there has been a gradual increase in this most beautiful tribe of plants. Many of our readers who delight in hardy shrubs, have probably seen none but the semidouble blush, and the popy-flowered variety (P. papavaracea). They have then

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a rich treat in store, for we have bloomed four others, the double white, which, by the by, does not expand very well; the Rosa Gallica, a single flower, but a rich rosy crimson, with a dark spot at the base; the double Papavaracea; and the Violacea superba, which last, we are grieved to say, died as if struck by lightning. The Horticultural Society have some fine new varieties, introduced from China, and the continental nurserymen hold large stocks. We believe Messrs. Standish & Noble are the largest growers in England, and we will allow them to give their own description of them, because they can do it better than we can. They observe, "of the many remarkable plants imported by us from China, these, if judged by the size and beauty of their flowers, are among the most attractive. In the magnitude of their individual blossoms, in the diversity and richness of their colours, as well as in the profusion in which they are produced, nothing remains to be desired. The following sketch will afford an idea of their general character:—First, of colour. Of white, there are examples unsurpassed in intensity and clearness by any other flower, not excepting even the old double white camellia. Of rose colours there are many shades, as well as of purples, and one rivalling the richness of the Tuscan rose. Then there is pale blush, light red, deep red, salmon colour, primrose, peach colour, and crimson: with various other tints and combinations of those already mentioned. Some of the light-coloured ones have the bases of their petals deeply stained with red or purple; others are delicately shaded. Most of the flowers are very double; some, however, are only semidouble. The latter generally have the petals stained as described. In shape, many are finely cupped, more resemble the finest rose, and others have anemone flowers. Of the last-named, a white and a deep red are fine examples. In size too, they are remarkable. Some of the flowers produced last season, and from small plants, measured eight, ten, and twelve inches across!"

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PROPAGATION OF GREENHOUSE AZALEAS.

I HAVE succeeded best in propogating them when their wood is about half ripened. I use cutting pots or pans, filled about half way up with broken pot-sherds, over which a small quantity of rough material should be placed, to prevent the fine mould from mixing with the drainage. I fill the pots with a mixture of two-thirds peat and one-third sand, to within half an inch of the rim. After pressing the soil with a small pot, or circular board, made for the purpose, I cover with silver sand, and after sprinkling it with a fine rose watering pot, to settle it, insert the cuttings. After they are put in, they should be covered with a bell-glass, to prevent evaporation, and the pot plunged in a bed with a slight bottom heat. When rooted, they will require a little air, which may be given by tilting up the glass on one side. When they begin to grow in spring, they will require repotting into small pots, in a mixture of peat and sand; they may then be placed in a gentle hotbed for four or five weeks, and afterwards removed to the front of a close house for some time. Towards the middle of May, they will require fresh potting into four-inch pots, in the same compost as before, pressing the soil firmly round the ball of the plant, in potting. They should be afterwards removed to a cold pit or frame, and kept close for two weeks or more, and well shaded from the strong rays of the sun, until well established, when air and light may by degrees be admitted. Look over them carefully at intervals, and stop all luxuriant shoots that will bear it. The plants will be benefited by being lightly shaded, during sunshine, until their growth is established. Give all the light and air possible, in order to secure vigour and healthy appearance, and to ensure the ripening of their wood. They may remain without repotting till the following spring, when they must be shifted as the vigour of the plants may warrant. About the end of June, if

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they have done well, they will be assisted by another shift, and will still continue to increase in size, if properly attended to, as frequent shifting is found to be the most secure method of treatment, and less dangerous in the hands of amateurs. The following spring will produce fine young plants, in a fit state for flowering in six-inch pots. As they increase in age, a freer state of bloom is secured by adding a portion of loam to the compost, making one part of loam to one of peat, with a little sand, to preserve the porosity of the soil. They may be induced to flower earlier than usual, by a little forcing, in a warm part of the greenhouse.—F.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

OCTOBER 6.

Certificate of merit to verbena *Mrs. D. Tysson*, raised by Mr. Robinson. Blush, with a striking crimson eye.

Certificate of merit to two plants of a hybrid fuchsia, raised by Messrs. Veitch, between F. spectabilis and F. serratifolia. It is named *Dominiana*. The foliage is fine and glossy. The flowers are in the style of Spectabilis.

Label of commendation to *Skynner's Mount Alexander* dahlia. Rich yellow, of good outline, rather depressed, and inclined to "rib."

Label of commendation to *Telegraph* fuchsia, raised by Mr. Smith. Crimson scarlet tube and sepals, with purple corolla.

GRACE DARLING SEEDLING GOOSEBERRY.—Knowing you are always glad to hear of anything new and good, I take the liberty of sending you the pedigree of my green seedling gooseberry, Grace Darling. In the autumn of 1847, my brother sowed a few berries, and amongst them was a good Drill, which sent up a few plants. The following spring, these were planted on a bed prepared for the purpose.

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At two years old, one bore two berries, which appeared very promising, and it was planted out for showing from. The following year (1851), it won a prize at Keighley in Yorkshire, as the best seedling; and also at Darwin, the best in colour. In 1852, it was again the best seedling at Keighley; it won a steward's prize at Harwood; and was the best green at Over Darwin. In 1853, I had a most excellent crop of fruit, and was in full expectation of winning very much; but as July came in, the leaves began to fall, and the plant gradually died, therefore I had nothing to weigh from but the two-year-old plants, which bore a few berries, that were weighed in at two open shows. The young plants were good, and were let out the second Saturday in October, the lots being all previously taken. I have not the slightest doubt that Grace Darling will be one of the best, if not the best green ever raised, for it has been the best in my garden three successive years. At the time the misfortune happened, the fruit was more than two inches long. A description of this sort will be found amongst the seedlings submitted to the Manchester committee, on the 6th of August.—T. CHIPPENDALE, *Tottleworth, near Blackburn.*

BREAKING SEEDLING BREEDER TULIPS.—As we are in a state of progression, I have always been of opinion that a free communication of experiments and results would contribute greatly to shorten our road to a desired end, otherwise the knowledge and experience of our forefathers would be to us a dead letter. With this impression, I make no apology in submitting to your numerous readers the result of an experiment I made three years ago, last spring, for the purpose of breaking my seedling breeder tulips. In the latter end of April, 1850, I planted about three hundred of my seedling breeder tulips, none of which, to my knowledge, had previously shown the least inclination of breaking. From the exhausted state of the bulbs, not more than forty came up the

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first season, and those very weakly; but the following season, the whole came up, and looked very healthy, and when in bloom, three-fifths of them were broken in different stages, and some of first-rate excellence. In 1851, I took up the bulbs, and the finest broken I put into my best bed, where they bloomed true the two last seasons. So strongly impressed am I with the advantage of this mode of treatment, that I have planted about fifteen hundred breeders this year, as late as the middle of May, and look forward with a degree of confidence to a happy result next year. It is necessary to remark, that there would be great danger of losing many bulbs by keeping them so long out of the earth, were they not protected from the action of the air (which would dry up their juices) by keeping them in dry sand until they are planted. I was led to try this experiment in order to correct, or lower the gross juices of the breeders, by observing that fancy dahlias, and carnations, are apt to run into a self or plain colour, when strong and vigorous, and thereby lose their true character.—J. T. C.

A Successful Gooseberry Grower.—Benjamin Butterworth, of Broad-lane, near Rochdale, Lancashire, has been a grower more than forty years, and has won the following extraordinary number of stewards' prizes, exclusive of money prizes:—Two silver cups, one silver cream jug, two sets of silver teaspoons, seventeen brass pans, and one hundred and eight copper kettles; also a pig, a ham, a metal teapot, a rocking chair, and seven sets of china. The greatest number of prizes he has won in one year is one hundred and three.

Jottings from an Amateur Tulip Grower, September 15, 1853.—I had (or rather ought to have had) some six or eight sorts of red bizarres, from Mr. —, last season. They were certainly good, as regards form, purity, &c. Earl of Lincoln and Duke of Cambridge were the best. I had Countess

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of Wilton, flamed rose, most beautiful. Lady Peel, rose is also fine; and Lord Sandon only wants an introduction to become a favourite. Tyso's Polydora will prove a teazer: I had it splendid, barring a little frost on one petal. Nora Creina is well marked and pure, and take it rather under bloom, will do for any taste; if an old bloom, I suspect it will quarter. Victoria Regina must come very different to what I have yet seen to make her worth as many pence as she once figured in pounds—one hundred, in 1836, was the price. The outer petals continue as green as the foliage itself. This was also the case with one bloomed by Mr. S., and he tells me he never had it otherwise, though, both last year and this, bloomed under glass from a bud. Claude is a nice feathered byblœmen, with large cup and good form. Can you tell me who showed Antagonist, at the National? It is a red flamed bizarre, and was numbered seventeen.—[We have seen Victoria Regina perfectly bleached, and thought it a desirable flower. Our friend must make some allowance for localities and seasons. Countess of Wilton is with us a fine short cup flamed byblœmen. The very pretty red flamed bizarre alluded to, was, we believe, exhibited by Mr. J. Thorniley, of Heaton Norris, near Stockport.]

Showing Pinks.—We wish some of our readers who are growers of these delightful flowers, would take into consideration some means of assimilating the *systems* of judging them. A correspondent has suggested in our pages, that if classes were made for the different colours with a white margin, as well as for those where the colour or lace comes quite to the edge, the difficulty would in a great measure be avoided. We confess that we quite coincide with his ideas on the subject, for we despair of getting the one or the other party to give up their favourite fancies, and if this plan were adopted, neither would have to compromise their opinion. The advantages to be obtained would be, a much greater number of

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flowers on our exhibition tables, a greater diversity of colour, and we will be bound to say a greater amount of gratification, because, by increasing the classes, more prizes must be given. Will some of our friends endeavour to improve on these ideas, and give us the result?

POLYGONUM SIEBOLDII.—What diversity there is in taste—in appreciation of the interesting and beautiful. A year or two ago, we gave a friend a plant of the above strong-growing perennial: he bloomed it and destroyed it, telling us that it was no better than a dock. Our own plant had not yet flowered, and from the unfavourable opinion expressed, we were half inclined to sign its condemnation. However, as the foliage and habit of the plant were striking and ornamental, we allowed it to remain. This season it has bloomed most profusely, and we must say exceedingly beautiful. The foliage is heart-shaped and bold; the flowers are produced in spikes from the axils of the leaves up the stems, in great profusion, and are extremely like those of the herbaceous perennial, Spiræ Japonica. It is not adapted for small beds; but for the margins of shrubberies, in company with the pæony, &c. it will be invaluable. It is strictly herbaceous, dying down each autumn.

ANECDOTE CONNECTED WITH THE POTATO DISEASE.—Some three or four years ago, a tall elderly countryman, of sallow complexion, and sober contemplative countenance, asked us in Nottingham market, if we could tell him what sum government would give for the discovery of a cure for the potato disease. We replied that we were not aware that government had pledged itself to reward any person accomplishing such a thing, but we had no doubt that ample remuneration would be forthcoming. He then informed us that he had discovered a certain cure. We certainly opened our eyes very wide, and inquired

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whether it was effected by any chemical process, or by what means. But no; he was perfectly impervious to any solicitations of ours to give the least hint. We told him we were most anxious that it should be published in the *Midland Florist*, and that we would willingly pay any moderate sum to have the credit of being first to make his discovery known, for the benefit of suffering, hungering humanity. Poor man! He was so wrapped in the vision of the wealth that would flow into his pockets, that he would not tell—that he would not, till he was largely rewarded. At last, we asked how long it was since he had made the discovery. "Oh," he replied in broad Derbyshire (he was a stocking weaver), "IT WAR RAVALED TO ME AS I SOT AT WORK!" We made our exit in a twinkling, and we very much fear our old friend's remedy has not yet realized his anticipations.

ASTER PIVONE.—We received a few seeds of this really magnificent variety of China aster, last spring, from Messrs. Edmondson & Co., Dublin. The flowers have been the admiration of all who saw them; and we would advise our readers to obtain seed of this variety, for in truth, those usually grown in gardens are mere rubbish in comparison with it.

FELLEMBERG AND GUTHRIE'S APRICOT PLUMS.—On young trees, these have fruited abundantly with us this season. The former is a long plum, purplish red, and of fine flavour. The latter round, yellow, large, and also good.

NOT A BAD CROP OF ONIONS.—We really must extract the following. It is a communication from Mr. Francis Symons, Carclew, Cornwall, to the editor of the *Gardeners' Chronicle*. "A crop of onions has been taken up here, and from their being of large size, averaging eleven inches in circumference, curiosity led me to weigh some of them. Two beds, each measuring thirty-two feet in length,

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by four feet in width, or two hundred and fifty-six square feet, weighed 3cwt. 83lb., which is at the rate of 31ton 16cwt. 63lb. to the statute acre. Supposing them to be worth a penny a pound, the value of one acre would be equal to £297 1s. 3d. The sorts were White Spanish and Globe."

THE AMERICAN HIGH BUSH BLACKBERRY.—A correspondent inquired about this fruit. It is long in shape, and, as far as we can perceive at present, not much better than our common English variety. Certainly it has not yet come up to its American character. It is very prolific, however, and the wet, sunless summer may have made against it. Should it "improve on acquaintance," our readers shall hear more of it.

Part III.

ANSWER TO QUERY.—W. R.—CALIPH TULIP.—Cup formed like Pilot, but much lighter in every respect than that flower. The beam is slender, and the margin of petals well feathered.

MY GARDEN.

No. XI.

WITH the damp month of November comes the need of great care in the treatment of plants being wintered in cold frames. They must not be allowed to become very wet, or they will assuredly damp off: but on the other hand, they must have as much air as possible, or they will become drawn up, and unable to withstand the frosts of winter. As to protecting the frames, there seems to be but one opinion of the unsightliness and costliness of mats. There is, however, a curious article called frigi domo, now being much used to take their place; and very useful it is,

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and such as I can, from actual trial, confidently recommend. The frame ground can never be ornamental, but it can be kept neat, and will look orderly (I fear rather an unusual thing), if the paths amongst it are covered with a good coat of very rough gravel, or ashes.

Tulips, if not in the ground already, should not long be delayed, as directly the bulb begins to grow, out of the soil, it begins to exhaust itself. It is better, however, to delay planting, than to perform it in bad weather, or when the soil is wet and cold. The bed will require little attention, except protection from heavy rain. Auriculas being in a state of rest, must be kept dry, and as much open as possible. Greenfly and all dirt must, too, be carefully removed. Almost the same directions apply to carnations and picotees. There is no difficulty in the cultivation of these flowers that may not be overcome by care and attention, and at no season is this required more than now. Pansies in pots may be grown very hardy, the chief enemy to be guarded against being mildew, which sometimes commits great ravages amongst them. Pinks in the open ground will need occasionally to be examined, lest rain or frost displace some of the plants; in pots, they may be treated as carnations. Dahlias, being dried, should be placed in their winter quarters, for which almost any place that is not liable to frost and wet will do; if packed in dry sawdust, they will keep very well. Hollyhocks in pots must be protected from heavy rain, which, at this season, is very injurious to them. Vary the size of the pots according to the strength of the plants, but for the general stock, a seven or eight-inch pot will be preferable. Fresh beds of roses may now be made, and either planted at once, or left till February; they will grow in almost any situation, if they are provided with strong and rich soil to work in. Ranunculus beds should be prepared now, that they may be thoroughly settled for planting in February or March.

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In the greenhouse, chrysanthemums will soon be in full flower; they will still require supplies of manure water, fully to develope their bloom. Continue to pot pelargoniums as they require it; and let the house be kept very dry, occasionally lighting a fire for this purpose, but ventilating it thoroughly at the same time.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

FELTON UNION OF FLORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS.

May 9, at Mr. Appleby's North Briton, Felton.

AURICULAS.

Grey-edged.

1 Grime's Privateer, W. Gallon
2 Lancashire Hero, ditto

Green-edged.

1 Hogg's Waterloo, J. Thompson, Esq.
2 Stretch's Alexander, ditto
3 Page's Champion, W. Gallon
4 Warris's Union, J. Black

White-edged.

1 Cheetham's Countess of Wilton, J. Thompson, Esq.
2 Taylor's Glory, S. Dawson

POLYANTHUSES.

Best Seedling.—Gallon's Pet, W. Gallon.

1 Buck's George IV., J. Crossling
2 Burnard's Formosa, W. Harrison
3 Cox's Regent, J. Crossling
4 Burnard's Formosa, W. Harrison
5 Brown's Free Bloomer, ditto
6 Nicholson's King, J. Crossling

HYACINTHS.

Double.

1 Groot Voorst, J. Thompson, Esq.
2 Bouquet Tendre, J. Black
3 Sans Suise, J. Thompson, Esq.

Single.

1 Nimrod, W. Riddle
2 Baron Von Tulle, J. Black
3 Fanny Kemble, ditto

At Mr. Watson's, Widdrington Arms Inn, June 13.

TULIPS.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Truth, Dr. Grahamsley
2 Platoff, ditto
3 Mathmatician, W. Harrison
4 Polyphemus, ditto
5 Prince Albert, ditto
6 Old Catafalque, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, Dr. Grahamsley
2 Catafalque, J. Crossling
3 Page's George IV., W. Harrison
4 Polyphemus, ditto
5 Bolivar (Lawrence), ditto
6 Ophir, ditto

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Alcon, Dr. Grahamsley
2 Duc de Florence, ditto
3 Reine de Sheba, ditto
4 Chellaston Seedling, W Harrison
5 Roscius, Dr. Grahamsley
6 Victoria, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Roi de Siam, Dr. Grahamsley
2 Le Grand Monarque, W. Harrison.
3 George Glenny, ditto
4 Alexander Magnus, Dr. Grahamsley
5 Perle Blanche, ditto
6 Violet Superb, W Harrison

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, J. Crossling
2 Lady Crewe, W. Harrison
3 Cerise Triumphant, Dr. Grahamsley
4 Globertine, J. Crossling
5 Cerise Primo, Dr. Grahamsley
6 La Belle Nanette, W. Harrison

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Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, Dr. Grahamsley
2 Madam Vestris, ditto
3 Aglaia, W. Harrison
4 Triomphe Royale, Dr. Grahamsley
5 Cerise Primo, W. Harrison
6 Cerise Triumphant, ditto

PANSIES.

Best Stand of Six Varieties.—Duchess of Rutland, Mrs. Beck, Zabdi, Mrs. Burdon, Sultan, and Maid of Honour, J. Crossling. 2. Ophir, Flower of the Day, Zabdi, Sir George Grey, Blanch, and Mrs. Beck, J. Black. 3. Queen of England, Mrs. Burdon, Mrs. Crossling, Zabdi, Mountain of Snow, and Ralph, J. Crossling.

At Mr. Fogg's, July 11.

RANUNCULUSES.

Variegated.

1 Romeo, T. Dawson
2 Flora Mc.Ivor, ditto
3 Suprema, ditto
4 Victoria, ditto
5 Unknown, ditto
6 La Singulier, T. Dawson

Selfs

1 Quaker Lady, T. Dawson
2 Grand Romana, ditto
3 Condorcet, W. Harrison
4 Brabancon, T. Dawson

PANSIES.

Best Stand of Six Varieties.—Cream of the Valley, Duchess of Rutland, Zabdi, Mrs. Burdon, Sultan, and Mrs. Crossling, J. Crossling. 2. Ophir, Flower of the Day, Zabdi, Blanch, Mrs. Beck, and Duke of Perth, J. Black. 3. Queen of England, Mountain of Snow, Zabdi, Sovereign, Duke of Perth, and seedling, J. Crossling. 4. Duke of Perth, Adela, Zabdi, Dr. Vernon, Aurora, and Mrs. Beck, J. Black. 5. Mrs. Beck, Duke of Perth, Golden Guage, Mr. Beck, and two seedlings, T. Dawson. 6. Mr. Beck, Golden Guage, Duke of Perth, Aurora, and two seedlings, T. Dawson.

Best Seedling Pansy.—Cream of the Valley, J. Crossling.

TULIP SHOW,

At the Park School, Blackburn, May 26.

Best Stand of Six Blooms.—Charles X., San Joe, Bienfait, Lancashire Hero, Comte, and Unique, T. Chippendale.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Pearson's, T. Chippendale
2 Henry le Grand, ditto
3 Unknown, G. Southworth
4 Roi de Navarina, T. Chippendale
5 Surpass Catalalque, J. Bramley
6 Trafalgar, H. Earnshaw

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, H. Aspden
2 Paganini, T. Chippendale
3 Charles X., J. Holker
4 Pilot, T. Chippendale
5 Polyphemus, ditto
6 Lustre, ditto

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Bramley
2 Incomparable, R. Howarth
3 Buckley's Beauty, J. Bramley
4 Bacchus, T. Chippendale
5 Baguet, ditto
6 Lady Stanley, W. Wilkinson

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Roscius, T. Chippendale
2 Louis XVI., J. Bramley
3 Bienfait, J. Foulds
4 Gigantum, T. Chippendale
5 Laura, G. Southworth
6 Catherina, J. Bramley

Feathered Roses.

1 La Belle Nanette, T. Chippendale
2 Comte, ditto
3 Lady Crewe, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Ruby, T. Chippendale
2 Rose Vesta, J. Bradley
3 Lady Stanley, J. Bramley
4 Aglaia, ditto
5 Rose Hebe, ditto
6 Lord Hill, ditto

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Prime Minister, T. Chippendale
2 Octavius, J. Bramley
3 Seedling, J Foulds
4 Competitor, J. Bramley

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Seedling, T. Chippendale
2 Goldona, ditto
3 Buckley's Beauty, ditto
4 Rowland, ditto

Rose Breeders.

1 Queen Philippa, J. Foulds
2 Jane of Arragon, J. Holker
3 Seedling, T. Chippendale

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Foulds
2 White Perfection, T. Chippendale

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Part X.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

NOTES OF NEW PLANTS ON THE CONTINENT.

A CORRESPONDENT to whom we have been at various times much indebted for information, and who has great opportunities of seeing the different plants and flowers on the Continent, has sent us the following notes, which we lay before our readers, premising that from experience, we put implicit confidence in them.

RHODODENDRONS.—This is a class in which there is great profusion. I have told you of Duc de Brabant and Etenard de Flandres, which you have already inserted. There are yet several worthy of your notice. For instance, *R. Jean Stern*, raised by M. Ring. This is a seedling of the Campanulata, with white flowers, most beautifully spotted with black. *R. Princess Charlotte* is also splendid, having a large pure white centre, with a deep bright pink margin. Amongst seedlings of the R. ponticum, which are raised here in myriads, are two originated by Van Houtte, namely, *R. Nuits d'Young*, the flowers deep red, shaded with purplish slate, and very deeply spotted with black. It is a most striking variety, and one of the best I have seen for some time. The other is called *Marquis of Exeter*, and is clear white, margined with purplish lilac. I am aware that you have extensive growers in England, such as the Messrs. Waterer, Standish & Noble, &c., but amongst their seedlings, I do not think they have such beautiful things as I have just enumerated.

We have at length a true mottled or variegated hybrid perpetual rose, and, like many other floricultural novelties which we see every day, amongst camellias, chrysanthemums, moss roses, &c., it is

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the result of a sport. In fact, it is a variegation of that fine rose Baron Prevost. Many things of this description fail in coming as described, returning in fact to their original character. This, I believe, is an exception, as there has not been a self-coloured flower among the hundreds which have already bloomed. It is called *Madame Desirée Giraud*, and is creamy white, mottled and spotted with crimson and rose of various shades. It will, no doubt, soon find its way to England.

Amongst other hardy trees and shrubs which will be likely to please cultivators on your side the channel, is a pretty variegated willow. It is in reality a perfect tricolor, the leaves being green, mottled with white and red. Another, is a first-rate thing, and mixed with other hardy ornamental trees, will have a most beautiful effect. It is nothing less than a richly variegated Acer negando, or ash-leaved maple. In its common character, the tree is singular and ornamental, but in this case it is peculiarly so, the centre of each leaf being green, surrounded with a broad band of yellow.

[We must just say a word here about variegated trees from the Continent, having received many from thence, but on strong rich land they have invariably gone back to their green state. Our readers must bear in mind that what our correspondent is now describing, are grown on the light sandy soil of Belgium.—Ed.]

Your cultivators should make inquiries about the new pæonies here. I see described in your last number some grown by Messrs. Standish & Noble, varieties, I presume, imported from China. There are, however, seminal varieties originated here. Amongst the best is *Triomphe de Malines* a splendid deep rose, very full. Amongst the newest are *Souvenir de Madame Knorr*, a fine large smooth white, tinted with rose; and *Charles Rogier*, in the style of the herbaceous variety called Festiva, having the centre petals edged with pink, on a white ground.

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There are some others of great promise, but as I have not seen them, I must defer their description till another year.

Another hardy shrub which merits attention is the *Spiræ Reevesii*, with double flowers, extremely interesting and pretty. We have likewise a great improvement on the Clianthus punicens, which made such a sensation here some years ago, but it is difficult to keep, from its extreme susceptibility to the attacks of the red spider. This sort is called *Clianthus magnificus*, and is indeed well named, the flowers being larger and more brilliant than in the old variety. The foliage is shining. It is a most desirable plant.

I had nearly forgotten to mention two or three rhododendrons, which, however, I do not think will prove sufficiently hardy for the rigour of your climate; nevertheless, they will be grand acquisitions to your conservatories. *R. cinnamoneum quinquavulnerum* is, in truth, a striped variety, the trusses of flowers being large, rich rose, striped with deep pink. *Joseph Decaisne* is of the same family, but is rose, having each segment of the corolla richly spotted with black. To these may be added *R. arborea amboisii*, a splendid crimson, with white throat, the edge of the petals being also mottled with white. These you may depend, are very excellent.

I do not think we are anything like so much in advance with florists' flowers as the English growers, but in stove and greenhouse plants, novelties from Mexico, Brazil, Japan, and China, I think we beat you. I can mention a few good things which will interest those of your readers who have stoves or greenhouses, and in these days of cheap glass, I hope there are many such. Amongst stove plants, there is one which took the first prize at Anvers, last autumn, a distinction which it richly merited. It is the *Aphelandra squarrosa citrina*. The flowers are rich orange, with brilliant citron bracts, the foliage bright green, the ribs being pure white. It is indeed a great novelty *(precieuse acquisition)*. Then we have a

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beautiful cereus. The flowers are rich yellow, with straw-coloured rays, and are really from ten to twelve inches in diameter. Again, we have a fine plant, which is not only a splendid ornament to our stoves, from the beauty of its flowers, but will be most desirable for the excellency of its fruit, which will doubtless be cultivated extensively for the dessert. I have not yet tasted it, but all accounts agree in stating it to be of most excellent flavour. It is about the size of an orange. The flowers are bright green, whilst beneath the foliage is of a colour something like Rhododendron cinnamoneum. It is named *Lucoma deliciosa*, and is, I believe, from central America. As a climbing stove plant, *Passiflora decaisneana* takes the first place. It is indeed a splendid thing, its crimson flowers being rich in the extreme. *Achimenes chirita* will make a first-rate plant for exhibition purposes, quite eclipsing the other sorts. The flowers are beautiful blue, and as large as the gloxinia.

In greenhouse plants, we abound in novelties. Amongst them is a camellia, called *Archduchess Marie*, of all the striped ones the best, and decidedly so, being of good form, deep rich red, and each petal having a large white stripe down the centre. It was greatly admired at one of our exhibitions, at Liege, where it took the first prize, and so constant was it that out of fourteen expanded flowers, all were perfect. *Esterhazya splendida* is also good. The flowers are produced in profusion, on a long spike: they are rich orange, and very beautiful. In habit it is something like a tall-growing pentstemon.

In hardy plants, *Gynerium argenteum* has flowered most beautifully in many establishments here. It appears, however, difficult to propagate. Its graceful tufts of silvery featherlike flowers are fine in the extreme. It grows tall, but there are many places in gardens where it will be very ornamental. *Bambusa metake* is a very hardy bamboo, introduced, amongst such a quantity of other things, by Siebold. It has a singular aspect, throwing up shoots of six

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or seven feet, and is a fit companion for the plant I named before.

We have a new dahlia, but this I do not think so much of as some of our amateurs. It is called *Empereur Francois Joseph.* Its chief novelty consists in its variegated foliage, which is certainly good, but I do not expect that it will prove constant.

In herbaceous perennial, or border plants, I have not much to tell you. There is, however, a good phlox, called *Criterion*, pure white, with pink stripes; and a petunia, which makes a very pretty plant for summer bedding. It is called *P. striata formosissima.* There are often flowers of four or five different characters on the plant at one time; for instance, some are white, with lilac stripes, others pure white, some rose-coloured, while again plenty are pink, with white stripes. Whatever its other merits may be, singularity is not one of the least.

I assure you one of the most attractive sights here, in the hardy flower garden, is the great number of beautiful herbaceous pæonies. I do not think they are cultivated with you half so much as they ought to be, but when better known, they will be found necessary to every well ordered garden. I find my paper is filled, and my notes on some other new things I will reserve for a future opportunity.

R. S.

SUCCESSFUL DAHLIAS, IN 1853.

With a view of ascertaining which are the most successful flowers at present in cultivation, I have compiled the following list, from returns made at the shows held at the Surrey Zoological Gardens, at Brighton, and at Edinburgh. The flowers were exhibited by Mr. Turner, of Slough; Mr. Keynes, of Salisbury; J. S. Proctor, Esq.; Mr. Robinson, of Pimlico; Messrs. Dickson & Son, Edinburgh; and Mr. Handyside, all well known as extensive growers. I have given the date when each variety was let out,

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with the exception of a few, to which I had no reference. No one, on looking over the list, can help feeling surprized to see how rapidly the different varieties, as they are let out, are surpassed by other flowers. For instance, the oldest variety at present in cultivation as a show flower is Essex Triumph, let out in 1843; and of those let out in 1845 only one remains; in 1846, three; in 1847, two; in 1848, five; in 1849, ten; in 1850, eight; in 1851, twelve; in 1852, eighteen; and in 1853, twelve. I do not say that there are no old varieties worth growing, as I am well aware that there are many good useful flowers that are not included in the following list. I only regret that I could not make the list more complete; but as returns are rather difficult to get at, I rest satisfied with what I have been able to procure. As will be seen, the Iron Duke still keeps his place, and I almost question whether there is a flower in cultivation superior to it, taking all things into consideration. Of the new flowers let out this season, Exquisite, Plantagenet, Miss Caroline, Bob, Amazon, Lilac King, and Sir J. Franklin have been the most successful; while the Grand Duke, Brilliant, Lord Byron, Annie Neville, and Queen Victoria do not make their appearance. As to the latter flower, what I have seen of it are all but single; but let us give it another trial, as most of our flowers are a little awkward at times. To illustrate this, I have this season a plant of the Duke of Wellington, and another of Richard Cobden, which have produced every bloom single; while on the other hand, a plant of Nonpareil, which for several years I could not get double, has produced every bloom double. Beauty of the Grove, and Queen of Yellows don't do, while Agnes is very good, but rather too low in the centre. Duchess of Kent makes her appearance once in the list, which is saying a good deal for a fancy flower. Should this prove acceptable to the readers of the *Midland Florist*, I will take a view of the fancies next month.

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NAME AND RAISER.	When let out.	1st Pan at the Surrey. Mr. Turner. Sept.	1st Pan at the Surrey. Mr. J. Robinson. Sept. 6.	1st Pan at Edinburgh. Dickson & Son. Sept. 10.	1st Pan at Brighton. Mr. Keynes. Sept. 14.	1st Pan at Brighton. J.S.Proctor,Esq. Sept.14.	2nd Pan at Edinburgh Mr. Handyside. Sept. 10.	2nd Pan at Brighton. Mr. Robinson. Sept 14.	2nd Pan at Brighton. Mr. Turner. Sept. 14.	2nd Pan at the Surrey. Mr. Keynes. Sept. 6.	TOTAL.
Duke of Wellington (Drummond)	1849	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Malvina (Howard)	1852	1	1	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	7
Sir C. Napier (Hale)	1851	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	7
Exquisite (Rawlings)	1853	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	1	6
Plantagenet (Turner)	1853	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	6
Sir F. Bathurst (Keynes)	1850	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	6
Fearless (Barnes).....	1849	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	5
Edmund Foster (Turner)..	1852	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	5
Essex Triumph (Turville)	1843	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	5
General Faucher (Rose)..	1851	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	5
George Glenny (Barnes)..	1851	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	1	..	5
Miss Caroline (Brittle)....	1853	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	5
Morning Star (Turner) ..	1852	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	5
Qu. of Whites(Drummond)	1852	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	5
Bob (Drummond)	1853	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	4
Mr. Seldon (Turner)	1849	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	4
Richard Cobden (Stein) ..	1848	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	4
Triumphant (Keynes)	1852	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	4
Admiral (Bragg)	1851	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	3
Amazon (Holmes)	1853	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	3
George Villiers (Union) ..	1852	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Lilac King (Rawlings)....	1853	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	3
Mr. Herbert (Dodd).....	1851	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
Mrs. Seldon (Turner)	1849	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	3
Queen of Lilacs (Turner)	1850	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	3
Scarlet King (Green)	1852	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	3
Shylock (Collison).....	1848	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	3
Sir J. Franklin (Turner)..	1853	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Sir R. Peel (Drummond)	1850	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
Sir R. Whittington (ditto)	1852	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Thames Bank Hero (Robinson) ...	1852	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3
Yellow Standard (Keynes)	1847	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	3
Absalom (Cooke)	1852	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Annie Salter (Salter)	1852	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Barmaid (Holmes).....	1851	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Beeswing (Sainsbury)	1845	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Captain Warner (Girling)	1846	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2
Douglas Jerrold (Keynes)	1852	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2
Earl Clarendon (Turner)..	1849	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2
Fame (Turville)	1850	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	2

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NAME AND RAISER.	When let out.	1st Pan at the Surrey. Mr. Turner. Sept.	1st Pan at the Surrey. Mr. J. Robinson. Sept. 6	1st Pan at Edinburgh. Dickson & Son. Sept. 10.	1st Pan at Brighton. Mr. Keynes. Sept. 14.	1st Pan at Brighton. J.S. Proctor, Esq. Sept. 14.	2nd Pan at Edinburgh. Mr. Handyside. Sept. 10.	2nd Pan at Brighton. Mr. Robinson. Sept. 14.	2nd Pan at Brighton. Mr. Turner. Sept. 14.	2nd Pan at the Surrey. Mr. Keynes. Sept. 6.	TOTAL.
Frederick Jerome (Widnall)	1850	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2
Jullien	....	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	2
King of Dahlias	....	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Magnificent (Keynes)	1849	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2
Miss Spears (Lamont)	1851	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
Negro (Fellows)	1849	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2
Princess Radziville (Gaines)	1846	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Red Gauntlet (Keynes)	1852	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Rose of England (Rawlings)	1852	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
Scarlet Gem (Turner)	1847	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Sir F. Thesiger (Rawlings)	1852	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Alice (Drummond)	1852	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Beauty of the Grove (Burgess)	1853	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Beauty of Kent (Trenfield)	1851	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Bishop of Hereford (Union)	1853	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Brilliant (Rawlings)	1853	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Crocus (Girling)	1848	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Duchess of Kent	1852	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Eclipse (Drummond)	1849	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Eldorado (Salter)	1850	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Fanny Keynes	....	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Goliath (Turner)	....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Imbricata (Hodges)	1848	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
John Edward (Salter)	1850	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Marchioness Cornwallis (Whale)	1846	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Model (Fellows)	1851	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Miss Chaplin (Dodds)	1849	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Mrs. C. Bacon	1849	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Nepaulese Prince (Stein)	1851	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Primrose Perfection	....	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Privateer (Turner)	1848	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Queen of Yellows (Sinclair)	1853	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Rachel Rawlings	....	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rembrandt	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Roundhead (Holmes)	1851	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Robert Bruce	....	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Seraph (Turner)	1850	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Summit of Perfection (Keynes)	1851	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Una (Keynes)	1852	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
White Standard (Brittle)	1852	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1

W. S. M. M.

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JOTTINGS ON ROSES.

FEW people enjoy roses so much as they ought to do, considering the facility and cheapness with which they are now obtained, and the numerous beautiful varieties which are introduced from time to time. My present object is to enforce the idea that the amateur should grow a selection, rather than a collection. The mischief of most nursery catalogues is, that many flowers are very similar, and if the best only, the cream of the group, were grown, much more satisfaction would most certainly ensue. Hybrid perpetuals are the most fashionable just now, and deservedly so; and when we recollect that Princess Helen and Madame Laffay were amongst the first, if not the very first (for I think I have some recollection of Laffay presenting his rose to one of the French Princesses), of this beautiful group, it is a matter of astonishment that amongst the quantity raised, there are so very few "beats" on the latter flower. There are some few amongst the light roses of the most beautiful shape, and to these I would particularly allude, forming, as they do, a fine contrast with the glowing colours of those splendid and useful roses Geant des Batailles, Standard of Marengo, and others of similar character.

Of this light class is *Reine des Fleurs*, globular, and flowers so profusely and compactly, that you cannot take a bloom with a stalk three inches long, without also removing a whole truss of buds. If this splendid rose has any fault, it is, that they are too crowded. *Madame Lamorciere* is another most beautiful thing, the petals on the exterior being much paler than within. It is not quite so compact a grower as the preceding, but it is equally pleasing.

I have been delighted during the past summer with *Augustine Mie.* Who does not know the old rose, called Hebe's cup, which unfortunately does not show its flowers longer than a fortnight? Here we have a "*perpetual*" rivalling that well-established

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favourite, and giving blossoms the season through. Then there is *Laura Raymond*, perfection of form, the petals overlaying each other with the greatest regularity. Some say *Laura* is as beautiful as a camellia. At all events, I am sure that everyone will admire her for her chaste and excellent habit. Then we have *Mrs. Rivers*, whiter than Joan of Arc, delicate and handsome in the extreme. The latter, though a fine rose, is so delicate in its growth, that it is quite superseded by Mrs. R., which is not only finely formed, but also very fragrant. Of *Eugene Sue* I have only seen one bloom this season, but it was very large and fine, and the colour bright pink.

Of darker sorts, *Geant des Batailles* is pre-eminently beautiful. Robust in growth, rich in foliage, and resplendent in colour, no rose is so well adapted for massing; and amid all perpetuals, when they have declined affording us their blooms, still the Geant welcomes us with an half-opened bud, more beautiful than when expanded, and the very acme of a November bouquet. *Lion des Combats* was to have beaten our "gigantic friend" out of the field, but though rich in colour, it will not do that. The Lion will doubtless have its run, but most certainly the Geant will be first favourite. A better rose is *General Castellane*, a really splendid sort, only just out, and a great addition to the class. Its form is so good, and in colour rivalling Geant, which is saying a great deal. Of *Adam Paul* I expected much, and speculated a "trifle" for a plant. I suppose it was the season, for Adam would hardly put in an appearance, the exterior petals clinging round as those of Souvenir de Malmaison are apt to do. I am certain that even in favourable seasons, it will require considerable care to bloom it well, but when caught right, it is doubtless a fine rose. I must not forget *Comte Brobinsky*. Most beautiful. The colour is peculiar, but as for form, it has none, always looking ragged, or one-sided; still its bright and brilliant carmine blooms will ensure it a place in most gardens,

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but it must be remembered that it is by no means a show rose. I have had a sweet bed of that gem *Comte d'Eu*, this season, and certainly it was admired greatly by all the company who visited my employers. As I stated at first, a group or bed of one particular sort, by bringing the beauty or strength, if I may so call it, to bear on one particular point, is most effective; for if a sort is deemed beautiful as it "stands alone in its glory," how much more grand must the effect be when a dozen of the same variety are grouped together. Here I have six small beds, cut on grass, and have the following six sorts:—Geant des Batailles, Duchess of Sutherland, Madame Laffay, Lady Alice Peel, Reine des Fleurs, and Robin Hood. These are worked on low stems, about a foot from the ground, and the effect is admirable. I contrive to have the tallest plant in the centre of the bed, and five others, rather lower, round it. I grow verbenas closely pegged down on the surface of the bed, choosing varieties which will contrast well with the roses. In the winter, after these are removed, I give a top-dressing of decayed horse manure, and at the same time reduce the shoots of the plant half their length, thinning out the head well. I let the manure remain till the first week in March, when, with a fork, I go over all the beds, turning the already decomposed manure in. The verges of the circles are then cut, and the beds remain in a condition to receive any plant which I may think suitable as an undergrowth. I have, however, made up my mind to grow Chrysanthemum Hendersonii for this purpose; for amongst the various autumnal bedding plants, this is one of the best. It requires, however, constant pegging down, but its gratitude is great, for it produces as many flowers as can possibly be desired. I have thus, Mr. Editor, mentioned my way of growing roses, with a few really good sorts, and I earnestly hope it may prove to your readers a word in season.

GEORGE ALLEN.

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PROPAGATION OF THE LILY.

THIS tribe of plants is now attracting much attention, and perhaps no perennials are more stately and beautiful. Whether we look at the old white lily of our gardens, the tiger, the turncap, or the umbellatum, which are comparatively common, or the more recently introduced ones from Japan, we must acknowledge that all are very beautiful. Most of your readers well know that the tiger lily and the L. umbellatum produce embryo bulbs at the axils of the leaves, which fall off in the autumn, and immediately emit a root, and are thus propagated to any extent, whilst the other varieties will, more or less, do the same thing; but the more speedy method is by scales. If a large root is broken up, and the scales planted in sandy soil, or in pans, they will each emit a small bulb at the base, which, with the usual care, will, in the course of three years, make good bulbs. I shall add to this a list of the lilies that have come under my observation, which I trust will be of service to those who, like myself, delight in their cultivation.

Lilium Bulbiferum.—Orange flowers, slightly spotted.

L. Testaceum.—Tall, six feet high. Flowers a sort of pallish buff, slightly spotted. This should either be planted in the centre of a bed, surrounded with more humble varieties, or it should occupy the back row of a collection.

L. Umbellatum—Orange red, spotted flowers, erect.

L. Umbellatum Immaculatum.—Darker and more spotted than the preceding.

L. Album.—Double-flowering. Very ugly, a complete monstrosity, without anything to recommend it.

L. Album.—Striped, curious. Flowers poorly, the purplish stripes being dingy. Not worth growing, if ornament is desired.

L. Brownii.—White tubular flowers, with a dark purplish exterior. Fine, but scarce.

L. Longiflorum.—A very beautiful sort. Sweet-scented, with long tubular flowers, pure white.

L. Canadiense.—Orange, with black spots. Requires a rather peaty soil.

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L. Lancifolium Album.—Will bloom in the open ground in the southern parts of the kingdom, but will not satisfactorily do so in Staffordshire.

L. Speciosum.—White, with rose-coloured spots. Very pretty.

L. Punctatum Rubrum.—An improvement on the above. A splendid variety. In fact, all the three last named are first-rate plants for exhibition.

To these may be added the scarlet, yellow, and purple martagon, or Turk's cap lilies, all most attractive plants, and adapted for every garden.

W. P.

Birmingham.

CYCLAMENS.

I do not see any allusion to the cultivation of cyclamens in your periodical. They are extremely interesting and I derive much delight from their very pretty flowers, dwarf habit, and variegated foliage. I grow mine in rich sandy loam, for I find that clay soil does not suit them. I have Cyclamen Europæum, with both white and pink flowers, which are perfectly hardy. Cyclamen coum requires a frame, and Cyclamen persicum, with its beautiful white flowers, with crimson tip, the temperature of a greenhouse. I have been very successful in raising a number of plants from C. coum, which come up very easily. I always sow the seed as soon as ripe, in light soil, in pans, placing them on a shelf in my little greenhouse. The soil I keep very moderately damp, and when they are large enough to handle, I transplant three or four in a halfpint pot, and encourage their growth as much as possible. By careful lifting from the seed pan, they speedily take hold of the soil, and their removal appears to affect them but little. When the foliage begins to fade, I withhold water, and allow them to remain in a state of rest. If large enough, I repot in the spring, in richer soil. Seedlings of the hardy varieties, as soon as they are the

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size of peas, I plant out on beds; and their unwillingness to sport I have proved by having at least five hundred seedlings from C. Europæa in bloom at one time, and out of all that number, not being able to detect the slightest difference, either in flower or foliage, from the parent plant. I should be glad to hear from any of your correspondents who may cultivate these plants, whether they have succeeded in obtaining varieties. I formerly used to divide my roots, but found it to be extremely hazardous, having lost a considerable number by them rotting in the ground.

NOVELTIES IN CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

THE undermentioned flowers are unquestionably fine, and we have much pleasure in recording their character in our pages, for the benefit of our carnation-growing friends.

King of Carnations (Puxley).—Crimson bizarre. Of medium size, fine broad petals, good substance, and extremely bright. The ground is pure, and the colours evenly laid on.

John of Gaunt (May).—Pink and purple bizarre. A large and fine flower, the most attractive variety in its class.

Jacques (May).—A bold and finely-marked purple flake. A remarkably stout-growing variety.

Ulysses (Turner).—Another of the same class, very smooth, and nicely marked.

Cromwell (May).—A rich scarlet flake. Grows freely, a fine flower.

Exit (May).—Scarlet flake. Very bright broad stripes, on a pure white ground; smooth on the edges, average size, the best of its class.

Talbot (May).—A bright rose flake. A large flower, with very fine petals.

PICOTEES.

Esther (Bayley).—Heavy-edged red. A large full flower, smooth on the edge, and very constant.

Finis (May).—Light-edged purple. Pure white, fine-shaped petal, very smoth on the edge, with a beautiful solid margin round each petal.

Nerissa (May).—Medium-edged purple. A fine large flower.

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Nora (Turner).—Light-edged purple. Good white, with fine broad petal. A fine flower.

Marion (Fellowes).—Heavy-edged rose. Margin very broad, smooth on the edge, good white, colour very rich, average size, very distinct.

Ariel (Turner).—Light-edged rose. Very smooth, and of extra fine substance.

Francis (Fellowes).—Light-edged rose. Broad petals, evenly margined. Distinct.

Helen (May).—Heavy-edged rose. Pure white, with a beautiful solid margin of rose; the petals broad and of great substance, full size. This will probably prove the best in its class.

Miss Puxley (Turner).—Medium-edged rose. Full size. A very useful variety.

TULIPS NOT MUCH KNOWN IN THE MIDLANDS.

General Barneveldt.—This season, it was a very splendid flower. A heavy plated feather. There are very few of this character in this part of the world.

Aglaia.—The *feathered strain* is a very steady flower. Rises about the fourth row. An eminent and successful cultivator tells us it is the best feathered centre-row rose grown.

Rosalie—A flamed rose. Short cup, pure, and very pretty. A second-row flower.

Duke of Clarence.—Though grown extensively in the south, where tricolors are esteemed, it is comparatively unknown here, owing to this class of flowers not being patronized. This variety we have seen very attractive, both in a feathered and flamed state.

Herald (Battersby).—A really splendid feathered bizarre. Our friends should look out for this, at the National, next year.

Arlette (Dixon).—Again we have seen this flower most beautiful, during the past season. The late Mr. Banton, of Teigh, Rutland, broke it from the breeder. It invariably comes well, which is saying a good deal for a tulip, but it is truly an excellent strain.

Orion (Sandars.)—Yellow, with scarlet feather.

We imagine flowers of this kind will, another season, be more in request; for, in stands, a fine contrast will go a long way, or ought to do so, with the judges. We have heard that after the National, which is to be held in London next year, there will

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be another exhibition, the succeeding year, open to all England, we believe, so that country growers who happen to be right, will have a chance of competing with some of the best beds about the metropolis. It is to enable north countrymen to compete successfully at these shows, that we would advise them to obtain flowers possessing the requisite properties, and at the same time combining novelty of colour. There is a flower which we see retains its place in some lists, at a *tolerable* price, which we will venture to say, would not be grown on the north side of the Trent, namely, Osiris.

Walker's Alpha is a novelty, and promises well. It is a feathered byblœmen, and was shown in fair style this year, at the National, at Nottingham.

Hector (Battersby).—A splendid feathered bizarre. Rich yellow ground, fine short cup, and perfectly pure.

THE PINK.

I FEEL great pleasure in finding that my favourite flower, the pink, is coming again into notice amongst our florists, and I have no doubt that with a little exertion, it will become a universal favourite, for I am sure we have not a flower amongst all our gems that will give greater satisfaction than the pink; and when we consider the little trouble it requires, it is a wonder that it is not more generally cultivated. I believe one reason is the various opinions respecting the properties the flower should possess, but I think that question is nearly settled, except with a few of our Staffordshire friends, who still stand out against the white margin, and I hope one more season will convince them of their error. To accomplish this end, I beg to propose that a national pink show be held at the Nottingham arboretum, on the day that may be fixed for roses; and that there be three censors chosen—one from the south, one from the north, and

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one from the midland counties. These parties should not be *dealers*. I will give five shillings for the best six laced pinks, purple or red, raised in the midlands, and I think we can find one who will encourage the northern raisers, while I am sure the south will not be wanting on their part; and if five shillings were added to the best of the three stands, as a sweepstakes, it would, with the honour of the thing, satisfy any reasonable person, and be better than giving great prizes, which often puts temptation into the way of those who are too weak to withstand it. Besides I think it is our duty to encourage the small growers, if we wish to improve the rising generation. Perhaps some one may say, where will you find your midland-raised pinks? When a list of pinks is asked for, or given, it is always southern or northern varieties, just as if pinks were not grown in our midlands; but I must beg to say, that they are not *merely* grown, but they are *well* grown, and also raised from seed; and this I hope will be witnessed next June, when, if all be well, I will show you a few that will make you smile, and say, Well done, we midlanders. It is needless to say anything on the cultivation of the pink. You recommend plenty of manure, and they will do with it, but mine very often does without it,—a little rich turfy loam forked into the beds, before planting, and a rich top-dressing in the spring, grows them very well. Some parties say that pinks should be piped, but I can grow them fine from layers. I would not condemn a flower for not having a white margin, for Marris's Emmeline is a fine flower without it, and Theresa is perfection with it. I think seedling raisers should choose their sorts to breed from: as for myself, I save seed from any good sort. My Duke of Devonshire was raised between Bower's Claudius and Suwarrow, and the Duke was the parent of Hollyoake's Lord Berner's, which will prove a clipper next season.

G. HUDSON.

Kingston, Nov. 17, 1853.

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ON JUDGING SEEDLING GOOSEBERRIES.

HAVING from time to time heard many remarks relative to the decisions of the Manchester gooseberry growers' executive, I am induced to venture a few observations and suggestions on the same subject, hoping they will prove beneficial. In the first place, I cannot see how the executive could ever anticipate giving satisfaction to the whole of the seedling raisers of England, upon the principle on which it is at present conducted; neither can I see how any reasonable-minded man could expect that that they should, there being only one day appointed for the examination of seedlings, the day on which the Manchester show is held. Now we all well know that the climate varies much in the different districts in which gooseberries are most cultivated,—I may say that between the first and the last show there is more than a month elapses;—and I wish to know how both late and early sorts can be properly described on the above-named day. For instance, several seedlings recently let out in our district, will grow until the middle, and in late seasons, until the latter end of August, whilst upon some early sorts you can scarce find a berry at the beginning of that month. Early seedlings are gone, and late ones are not ripe, and hence the dissatisfaction in a great measure arises; but to avoid all this, have we not residing in each district men competent to judge of the seedlings raised in their own locality, men who, by constant intercourse with each other, have an opportunity of seeing and watching such seedlings in every stage of their growth? and, I would ask, are not these men more competent to describe the productions of their own neighbourhood than any stranger who may see those productions only on the day of the Falstaff show, when some are overgrown, some not half ripe, and others damaged by carriage or the various accidents to which they are liable on being sent so far from where they were raised? Common sense

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says, let each district have its own executive; and if Manchester must be the supreme court of record (to which I have not the slightest objection), let each district forward the result of its deliberations to that place. This plan would perhaps render it necessary to delay the publication of the *Register* a week or two, which would be of little importance, compared with the advantages the seedling raisers would derive from the adoption of the above principle. On looking over the *Register*, I am of opinion that the following towns would best answer the purpose for executives, there being the greater number of growers in and about them, viz. Nottingham, for Nottinghamshire; Derby, for Derbyshire; Sheffield, for Yorkshire; Manchester for Lancashire; Wistaston, or Macclesfield, for Cheshire; Newcastle, or the Potteries, for Staffordshire; Birmingham, for Warwick and South Stafford, &c.; but it would rest with the different districts to select their own place of meeting. In offering these few remarks, I hope I shall not offend any gooseberry grower, as they are intended to benefit that community at large.

R. M.

Part II.

NEW FRUITS.

Belle Agathe Cherry.—A very fine late variety, the largest and sweetest of any that ripen in October, and far superior to Biggareau, d'October, or Tardif Van Mons.

Larmes de Notre Dame Vine.—A Continental variety of white grape, highly spoken of. The berries are very large and transparent, and of first-rate excellence.

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CHAMPION PEACH.—We have not seen this new variety, but if it comes up to the description, it is well named. It measures the extraordinary size of eleven to thirteen and sometimes fourteen inches; flesh free, rich, and juicy; flavour unequalled, somewhat resembling the greengage plum; an excellent bearer, and in every respect of first-rate quality.

THE GOSHEN RED CURRANT. This is a variety letting out in Scotland, at one shilling per plant, or nine shillings per dozen. We have previously noticed it, but being most anxious to know more about it, we wrote to the gentleman selling it out, to inquire whether it were a seedling, as, from its high character, we were desirous of giving it a further recommendation to our readers. In reply to our queries, we learn that it is a sort obtained from England, some few years ago, therefore we imagine it very probable that it may turn out Haughton Castle, or Knight's Large Red. Walker's Cherry Red, we believe, is nothing more than the latter. We have grown them side by side, and cannot detect the slightest difference. We mention this to prevent the disappointment which must ensue, should the Goshen and Walker's Cherry Red prove sorts already named.

COX'S POMONA APPLE.—Good either for table or the kitchen. Very high coloured and attractive.

COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN. Flavoured like the Ribstone. A very excellent variety.

MANNINGTON PEARMAIN we have fruited from very young trees. Should be grown everywhere. Quite of first-rate quality.

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EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

BALSAMS IN THREE STYLES OF GROWTH.

It is very evident that there is a stir made in favour of this beautiful plant. The balsam is apt to draw, if it has heat, without sun; therefore it should not be sown too early. But, as they can be bloomed in a very short time, it is not uncommon to sow at three or four different seasons. In April to begin, May for the general show, June twice, for succession. Nothing suits the balsam better than a good deep frame, a well-made hotbed, and the box filled up all but six inches with tan, so that the pots may stand near the glass; and if there be a good heat, the seed will be soon up. Sow the seed thinly and evenly over the surface of the pot, pan, or box used for the purpose, and sift or sprinkle the soil over, enough to well cover it. As soon as the plants are up, give air as freely as you can, without lowering the temperature below sixty. When they are strong enough, prick them out round the sides of pots, say two inches apart, so that there would be five or six in a four-inch pot, and more or less, as the pots are larger or smaller; it mattering but little what sized pot it is. Let the seed leaves be not more than two inches above the surface, and replace their pots in the hotbed. As they grow up, sink the pots in the tan, to keep the plants from touching the glass; but keep them as near as possible to allow a trifle for growing. When the plants have rough leaves, repot them singly in four inch pots, lowering them into the soil, so that the first, or seed leaves, be not more than two inches from the surface, for the stem below the seed leaf will have lengthened. So long as the pots can be sunk in the tan to allow of the plant growing without

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actually touching the glass, so long must they be sunk, and after that the frame must be raised, or another hotbed be prepared, to give more room. As soon, however, as the roots begin to form round the sides of the four-inch pot, they must be removed to pots of six inches diameter, and be still lowered, if necessary; for as the balsam throws out new roots all up the stem, if it be sunk, the plant is improved rather than injured by sinking the stem; but the seed leaf should be kept an inch above the surface, even after its last shift. Those who have stoves, and can place the plants close to the light, save the trouble of a hotbed. As soon as the middle stem shows flower, we have to decide what we are going to do. If we want very large plants, we must pick off the buds as fast as they come, until the size we require is attained. If we want handsome, and not large plants, we only pick off the buds from the middle stem, until there are buds on the side shoots, and thin out, so as to leave buds, nearly of a size, an inch or two apart all over. Meanwhile, as soon as one pot fills with roots, it should be shifted for larger. If, instead of large plants, we only want to produce monster flowers, we should, as soon as the buds are forward enough in the first instance to show whether they are very double, pick off all but four or five buds on the middle stem, and let them flower; they will come as large as roses or camellias. But it is to be borne in mind, that the constant shift from one pot to another, as fast as they get filled with roots, must be attended to in all these methods of blooming them. The soil should be rich and light, and the watering regular, as they get dry. If you are always on the spot to see, they may be left till the leaves indicate flagging before they have water; but when they do, the soil must be wetted all through. They are the better for occasional syringing, but they ought not to be wetted when in bloom. The house or pit may be wetted so as to throw a dew over them, but syringing would unquestionably injure

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the flowers that are opened. Balsams might be grown well in the open air. Make a bed eighteen inches deep, and let the soil be one-third in quantity of well decomposed dung, the other the garden soil; and if too stiff, mix sand with it. At the end of May, plant out those sown in April, and give them full two feet of room every way. Shade them from the hot sun when first put out, and they will grow even finer than half the potted plants.

Glenny.

CULTURE OF THE HOLLYHOCK.

THE soil most suitable for the growth of this noble early autumn flower is a very rich sandy loam; but it thrives well in any good rich garden soil. Previous to planting, the earth should be trenched at least two feet deep, and liberally mixed with well-decomposed manure. If autumn planting is preferred, it should be done early, in order to allow the roots to get established before severe frosts set in; but plants turned out in March bloom quite as early and equally well as those planted in autumn, the plants having been kept growing throughout the winter. Care should be taken that they receive frequent waterings during dry weather, and a plentiful supply of liquid manure during the growing season. The earth should also be frequently loosened round the roots. When the plants have thrown up spikes about six inches high, the latter should be thinned out, leaving not more than three spikes on a strong plant, and on weak plants not above one, staking each spike separately, when about fifteen or eighteen inches high. To obtain fine blooms, all laterals should be cut away, and the flower buds thinned out, if too much crowded. The hollyhock is in its beauty in the month of August; but a succession of bloom may be obtained till about the end of October, by

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later planting. Immediately after the blooming season, it is advisable to cut the old flowering stems from the plants, about six inches from the ground; and in October, or early in November, to earth up the crown with silver or road sand, which prevents too much moisture getting to the roots during the winter months. An occasional sprinkling of soot and quick lime should be given, to destroy slugs, which are the greatest enemy of this flower; and all decayed leaves should be picked off, to prevent rot. Early seed will produce young plants the same autumn in which it is gathered. It should be sown in pans, in light sandy soil, and plunged in a frame with gentle bottom heat. The mould should be moist at the time of sowing, and not watered until after the second leaves are formed. When strong enough, the plants should be transplanted into small pots, put into a close frame for a few days, and when established, hardened off. They should then be transferred to a cold frame, giving plenty of air in favourable weather, through the winter, and in the month of March or April, turned into the open ground, for blooming. Late-gathered seed may be sown in the open ground, in May or June, in rows or drills; it will only require hoeing and thinning, and may remain for blooming. This plant may also be propagated by dividing the old roots, which is best done in autumn, taking care to leave plenty of root with each division. The best blooming plants are raised from cuttings, which may be taken from the crown of the old root, when the shoot is about an inch long, in the month of April or May; or by single eyes, from wood shoots, in July and August, taking care that the bark is sufficiently hard, but not pithy. The cuttings should be potted singly, in small pots; the eyes placed five or six round a three-inch pot, in a light and very sandy loam, plunged in a close frame, with a little bottom heat, very sparingly watered, giving air every day for a short time, to exclude damp, and carefully picking off all decayed

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leaves. In about three weeks, they will mostly be rooted, and should be immediately potted. When well established, they should be hardened off, and kept in a cool airy frame, until they are transferred to the open ground for blooming.—W.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

CULTURE OF THE CHINESE PRIMROSE.—I generally sow my seeds about the beginning of August, or a little earlier, in shallow pans, in light sandy soil, without any manure. They are sown thinly, and pressed down on the surface, so as just to be covered with the soil. After a gentle watering, the pans containing the seed are removed to a hotbed, where they remain until the young plants are about an inch in height. At this stage, they are pricked out into the same sort of pans, an inch apart, adding this time one-third leaf-mould to the soil. The plants are put into the hotbed again, until they have attained the height of two inches, when they are taken out of the pans, and shifted into five-inch pots, that have been well drained. The compost for this and their final shift consists of equal quantities of cow dung, two years old, leaf mould, peat earth, and sandy soil. After potting, the plants are removed into a cold frame, with an eastern aspect. The lights are kept close for a few days, and the plants are shaded from the mid-day sun until they commence growing. Air is then admitted, gradually at first, but as soon as I perceive the plants to be fairly in a pushing state, I ventilate freely. The sashes are, however, always put on when it rains, for nothing is so injurious to primulas as water overhead, at any stage of their growth. As they begin to fill their pots with roots, I give them liquid manure once a week, made from pigeon's dung. I permit the first flower stem to rise, but only for the purpose of judging of the merits of the flower. As soon as that is decided, the good flowers are picked out, and when the pots are

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filled with roots, the plants are finally shifted into eight or twelve-inch pots, and treated in precisely the same way as at the former shifting, and with the same situation and aspect. They remain in the cold frame until the middle of October. After that, they are brought into their winter quarters, to flower in the greenhouse. As soon as the plants have stopped growing, I withhold the dung water, as a continuance of it would be likely to destroy them in the winter months.—J. H.—*Gardener's Chronicle.*

NYMPHÆA GIGANTEA.—This very beautiful deep blue water lily has bloomed with M. Van Houtte, of Ghent, and is supposed to be the first that has flowered in Europe. It is from Australia. We should be glad to hear of some of these magnificent aquatics being tried in some of the reservoirs connected with the large mills in Lancashire and Yorkshire. In many, the water could be rendered tepid, and it is possible they might succeed. Can any of our correspondents tell us whether the experiment has been tried, and where. Messrs. Weeks, of King's-road, have bloomed the Victoria regia in the open air.

FILBERTS.—The filbert, as most people know, is very successfully cultivated in many parts of Kent. The soil best adapted for it is a sandy loam, but I have also seen it flourish on a portion of old brick rubbish, mixed with loam. Filberts are particularly fond of manure, and require a good top-dressing every year. The best mode of increasing them is by grafting on seedling stocks, which should be "worked" in February or March; or they may be propagated from suckers. The latter mode is generally preferred in Kent. Layering in spring, or sowing the nuts in October or March, also offer means of increasing the stock. When one year old, they should be planted out in rows, in beds. In this way, they may be trained so as to form standards or

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dwarfs. The best time to make new plantations is from October to March, choosing mild weather for planting. Plenty of room should also be allotted for each tree, as they do not succeed so well when they are crowded, which is very often the case. When I was living at Wildernesse Park, in Kent, I had an opportunity of visiting many excellent filbert grounds, and the practice there was generally to train the trees with a short stem, similar to a currant or gooseberry bush, and also to keep them very thin of wood. Every shoot that is expected to bear fruit is shortened at the end, in order that it may not weaken the branch. Filberts mostly bear from the young upper wood, or from young shoots from the bases of the side branches, a twelvemonth old. The leading shoot of young trees intended for dwarfs, should be shortened two-thirds every year, until they reach the size required. The best sorts to cultivate are the red and white filbert. The Cosford and Cob Nuts are also very desirable. Where size is required, the Downton square nut, Spanish, and large Cob may be selected. The nuts should be gathered in bunches, as soon as the "cup" and nut turn brown. They should be properly dried, and laid in a box nearly air-tight, with sawdust and salt, so as to prevent the kernel from shrivelling.—E. BENNET, *Perdiswell.—Gardeners' Chronicle.*

SPRING-FLOWERING BULBS.—What can be more beautiful than the squills (scillas). There are the different varieties of S. nutans, with white, pink, and blue flowers; S. præcox, as early as the snowdrop; and S. amœna, with later, but larger flowers. The S. Peruviana has large flowers, and the most beautiful blue imaginable. S. Japonica, with rose-coloured flowers; and S. campanulata, parviflora, maxima, cernua, &c. ought all to have a place. They should not be often parted, but grown in bunches, and few plants are more welcomed in early spring than this very interesting family.

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THE PETUNIA AS A CONSERVATORY BORDER PLANT.—I am afraid some will be surprised at my recommending the petunia as a conservatory plant, seeing it is so very common. I, however, regard this as a weak objection, provided the plant be suitable and useful; and that it is so I have proved this year, when it has answered so admirably, that I think it worth a trial by those who are fond of having their conservatories well supplied with flowers. I propagate in spring, in a bottom heat of about sixty-five or seventy degrees. After the plants are rooted, I keep them growing freely on, with as little heat as possible. I planted a healthy plant from this stock in the conservatory border, early in March, keeping it well supplied with water. I trained it up to a stake, about five feet high. A month after its transplantation, it commenced flowering, and since that time up to the present (September), it has gone on blossoming incessantly; and now it seems by no means exhausted, looking full of vigour, and likely to continue in flower for months to come. It measures five feet high and five feet through, and is covered with innumerable blossoms. It does not seem subject to the attacks of insects, like some conservatory plants. I frequently syringed in the evening, for the purpose of washing off the dust and preserving a green healthy appearance. It seems capable of standing a very great amount of heat, without any bad effects, if it be well supplied with water. I have tried another petunia as a trellis plant, in a back border, in the same house. As it grows rapidly, it requires attention in tying up the shoots. It has answered admirably, flowering for many months, sometimes being subject to a sun heat of one hundred and ten degrees. Very much of course depends upon taste in the selection of plants. To my taste, there is no purple flower, as a conservatory border plant, capable of successfully competing with the petunia.—WILLIAM PAYNE, *Fir Vale, near Sheffield*, in *Gardeners' Chronicle.*

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How to Grow Leeks for Exhibition.—I have been a reader of your valuable work from its commencement, and from it I have obtained good information, and I hope the following will be useful to those who may wish to grow leeks to great perfection. I have been a successful competitor, and my mode of treatment is simply thus. In the month of December, I cover the ground, six inches thick, with cow dung, twelve or fifteen months old, and dig it well in, where I intend planting my leeks. In February, I select the seed from the crown of the leek, which seed I consider the best; I place one grain of seed halfway down a pot, five or six inches deep, and keep the pots in a cold frame, moderately damp, in a south aspect, until they are three or four inches high. I then plant them eighteen inches apart, in a zig-zag direction, and cover them with hand-glasses. During severe weather, I never remove the glasses, but when the weather is favourable I give them the benefit of fine showers. In hot or dry weather, I give them water, new milk warm. In September, I have them seven inches in circumference, and upwards of four feet high.—William Brunton, *Shire Moor, Northumberland.*

Winton Parke's Steel Digging Fork.—We wish to impress on our readers the propriety of immediately obtaining one of these forks, with five tines or prongs, if they do not already possess one. It has never been advertised with us, therefore it cannot be said we have any interest in the matter; but we are so assured of its intrinsic merit for all purposes for which a fork is required, that all who attend to our suggestion will, we are confident, thank us for giving it.

We learn this season, that the apple known in this neighbourhood as Queen Caroline, or Spencer's Favourite, is called in the neighbourhood of Newark "Earl Moira," and known in the nurseries there by

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that name. The former is its proper designation but recording this alias may prevent disappointment to some of our friends.

Part III.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

HELIANTHUMS.—P. P.—Yes, we have grown them, but they are hardly sufficiently distinct. Twelve would do well enough.

STRAWBERRIES.—X.—There are few better for your purpose than Keen's seedling. You are late enough. Still, should the weather be at all favourable, plant now; but, as you have the opportunity of removing the runners yourself, run your knife round them, and bring them up with a ball of soil. If planted thus, we imagine they will be all right.

TULIPS.—J. M.—No; we think, take it altogether, a good strain of Princess Royal is the best of Gibbons's byblœmens (flamed). Doubtless there are many inferior breaks.

R. S.—With us, Abbot's Bizarre was "good for nothing." We had a breeder,—*it broke*, and we *broke it*. You can try it if you like; the right one has been seen good.

DELPHINIUMS.—J. P.—We do not recollect ever seeing perfect seed of Delphinium Barlowii. That there is every appearance, we will, with you, admit; but on examination, it will be found void of "kernel."

BALSAM SEED.—W. S.—The best, we believe, is Mr. Glenny's "improved." This, like every thing else, if care be taken in its selection, can be brought to a high pitch of perfection. That usually purchased, is the produce of inferior sorts, imported from the Continent. Semidouble and single flowers give most seed, and unless it is guaranteed to you by a respectable man, you will probably be disappointed.

APPLES.—T. M.—We would not grow the Maltster. True, it does not require much sugar, but does that counterbalance the fruit rotting on the tree, a rambling ugly habit, and being an insufferably idle bearer into the bargain?

ROSES.—W. W. T.—For your small beds, you had better have them worked low. The sorts you will find alluded to in an article in the present number. As for climbing roses, they are classed under the following heads:—Boursault, multiflora, Ayrshire, sempervirens, and Banksia. We should think that Amadis, a crimson boursault, and Donna Maria, a sempervirens white rose, would contrast well on your trellis.

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PLUMS.—R.—We have not seen the plums you allude to. They have a high character in the advertisement. We will see to your other request.

JANE.—Yes, Saxifraga oppositifolia is extremely pretty. It does not like very strong soil. We have seen it covering at least a square yard of land, on sandy loam. The other will not be suitable, but Cerastinum tormentosum (the Mouse-eared chickweed) is very singular, and will do very well.

GLYCINE SINENSIS.—J. S.—Several of our friends are in a similar position with yourself. All we can say is, *patience*. When your plant recovers its removal, and gets established, you will then rather complain of its rambling propensities.

REVIEWS.

WE have not lately noticed our contemporaries, but as we wish to make known their merits to our readers, we will in this, our last number for the year, undertake the pleasurable task. Of those not noticed we do not receive a copy. First and foremost, is

TURNER'S FLORIST, FRUITIST, & GARDEN MISCELLANY. No. 70.

The illustration is the beautiful *Gesneria donkelaari*, raised on the Continent, and the opening paper gives some description of it, as well as the cultivation these plants require. Then there is an interesting article on rose stocks, and a descriptive list of fruits, in which Kirk's, Goliath or Caledonian, Reine Claude de Bavay, and Royal Hative plums are described; Town Gardens and Parlour Windows; a very amusing paper, The Autobiography of a Pot Rose, contributed by Mr. W. Paul, of Cheshunt; Flower Gardening, &c. We give as a specimen of the style of the work, and as most likely to be useful to many of our readers, the article on stocks for roses, premising that we believe Willison's Victoria to be a far better stock than any of the sorts named. Undoubtedly manetti, blush boursault, and Bourbon are decidedly superior to the dog rose.

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STOCKS FOR ROSES.

THE floricultural world will doubtless remember a rather warm discussion which, a few years since, caused no small amount of inkshed, and produced a few lively skirmishes, amounting almost to a state of actual war. An eminent cultivator, whose character and position combine to render him a high authority, having received from abroad a new rose, called Manetti, conceived the idea that it would form a better stock than the wild brier for many, if not all the numerous families into which the queen of flowers has been (somewhat arbitrarily, in my poor judgment,) divided and sub-divided. Having first tested its properties, he propagated it extensively, and in due time offered it to the public, speaking of it, generally, in terms of unqualified praise. It is perhaps only natural that a parent's eye should discern more readily the good than the bad qualities of a favourite child, and we may therefore afford to make some little allowance on this head. Nevertheless, Master Manetti, coming before the world with such a character, so endorsed, experienced no difficulty in finding numerous friends. But there are two sides to every question, and two opinions concerning every thing in this world, be it good, bad, or indifferent. And so it turned out, that before the stripling became, as it were, firmly established, he found his path a little more *thorny* than it had appeared at first sight. To drop metaphor, the manetti stock, so highly recommended by one authority, was disparaged and condemned, in no measured terms, by others, whose pretensions to form a judgment in the matter were indisputable. Thus stood the case. A says, "I have a new stock for roses to submit to your notice, good public. I have tested it, and find it to possess certain excellent qualities. I therefore strongly recommend it as deserving your notice." B and C exclaim, "Pause awhile, dear public, before you commit yourself too decidedly to this vaunted stock

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of A's. Be assured it is a mere crotchet, a delusion, an *ignis fatuus*, that will only lead you astray."

"Who shall decide, when doctors disagree?"

This, said I, is a subject for the consideration of those grave counsellors, TIME and EXPERIENCE. To them, therefore, will I refer it.

It so happened that at the period when this "war of the roses" was at its height, I had determined to plant some thirty or forty beds in my flower garden with autumnal-blooming varieties, worked on short stems, some eight hundred plants being required for the purpose. As I could better afford to wait patiently than to purchase on so extensive a scale, I came to the conclusion of working the plants myself. being somewhat of an enthusiast as regards roses, and having all the leading varieties, up to that time, already in my possession. Here was an opportunity of testing, to a certain extent, the capabilities of different stocks, of which I resolved to avail myself. In due time, my plans were matured, and my determination carried out. The lapse of a few years has enabled me to realize the effects of the experiment.

My first consideration was the selection of the sorts I proposed to include in the trial. Those were decided on more, I believe, because I happened to have a sufficient quantity of them ready for my purpose than for any better or more philosophical reason. They consisted of the following:—

a. Common dog rose.

b. Blush boursault.

c. Crimson boursault.

d. Manetti.

e. Plants raised from cuttings of the stronger-growing Bourbons, as Splendens, Madame Deprez, Bouquet de Flore, and the like.

With strong thriving plants of the above, in equal proportions, each bed, having been previously well dug and manured, was planted in November. Three

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summers elapsed before they were all budded. They have bloomed in perfection through two succeeding seasons, and I have derived no small amount of pleasure in watching their progress. My problem was, to ascertain the best stock or stool for autumnal roses; and my requirements were chiefly these—

1st. Free growths.

2nd. Fine blooms.

3rd. Immunity from suckers.

4th. A prolonged season, in which the operation of budding may be performed.

5th. Facility in procuring the stocks themselves.

Let us now briefly inquire in what manner the five sorts with which the experiment was made answered to these several requirements, and we shall then have some guide towards forming a correct estimate of their respective merits.

1. *Growth.*—There is no room for choice on this head. The whole of them grew with remarkable freedom; and, had time permitted, might all have been worked early in the summer succeeding their planting. We may therefore assume, that in this particular the five varieties are about equal in point of excellence.

2. *Blooms.*—In this respect, the cultivated varieties obtained a complete victory over the wild stock; the flowers produced on the former were larger and of finer form. I am unable to decide between the claims of manetti, Bourbon, and crimson boursault; these must be pronounced equal. Blush boursault was a good fourth, and the wild brier last.

3. *Suckers.*—Not one of the five have been free from these pests. They have all thrown up suckers in great luxuriance. In this respect, manetti has failed to realize that which was promised for it by its sponsor. Bourbon has rather the advantage here, the others being on a par.

4. *Period of Budding.*—Here again the cultivated sorts are much superior to the wild brier. Often, very often, in hot dry weather, when the bark of the

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latter would not "run," there has been no difficulty in working the former. Perhaps the crimson boursault is fit to receive the bud more days in the year than either of the others; but I have not found the operation succeed so frequently on this as on the rest. I have experienced fewer failures in operating on the manetti than on any stock I have hitherto manipulated. The absence of spines in the boursaults renders them very pleasing subjects to handle. I would recommend them to ladies especially on account of this quality. The dog rose is undoubtedly the roughest customer to tackle. Bourbon is a good stock for budding; it is generally in a fit state, and the operation usually successful.

5. *Facility of Procuration.*—Again I must consign our old friend the wild rose to the place it most affects—the shade. It is not pleasant to be obliged to ransack your neighbour's hedges, and receive every now and then a significant hint about *trespass.* And even when, after much toil and tribulation, we have procured a supply, how many of the number do we find with large, hard, woody roots, nearly destitute of fibre, and of which we can make nothing. I would counsel those who still pin their faith to the dog rose, if they are endowed with the virtue of patience, to raise their stocks from the suckers produced in their own gardens. All the other kinds may be raised from cuttings, which succeed best when taken towards the end of September. In the facility with which these make roots, there is, however, a *striking* difference; and here manetti has a decided advantage. My own experience gives me the following proportions which the plants raised bear to the cuttings put in:—

Manetti	80 per cent.
Blush boursault	63 „
Bourbon	47 „
Crimson boursault.....	24 „

It must be confessed the cuttings have been taken and planted in a rough unworkmanlike manner; but

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I attach no great importance to this circumstance, as all the sorts fared precisely alike.

I forward this paper for publication, hoping it may interest some of the readers of the *Florist*. They can form their conclusions from the evidence I have adduced. I refrain from giving my own, as my purpose is more to narrate facts than to draw inferences; and I have no desire to appear dictatorial, or to speak as "one having authority."

These trials have been made with autumnal-blooming roses only—hybrid perpetuals for the most part; and it is by no means improbable that in other localities different results might be obtained. My situation is near the south-eastern coast; my soil a rich adhesive loam, resting on a substratum of *undrained* retentive clay. Will any amateur take up this interesting subject, institute fresh experiments, and give the floricultural community the benefit to be obtained by the publication of the results?

I subjoin a list of the varieties with which the beds are now filled, and from which I am still enabled (Oct. 11) to cut a handsome bouquet every morning.

HYBRID PERPETUAL.

Aubernon.
Auguste Mie.
Augustine Mouchelet.
Baronne Hallez.
Baronne Prevost.
Caroline de Sansal.
Comte de Montalivet.
Comtesse Duchatel.
Dr. Marx.
Duchess of Sutherland.
Géant des Batailles.
Jacques Lafitte.
La Reine.
Lady Alice Peel.
Louis Bonaparte
Madame Aimée.
Madame Guillot.
Madame Laffay.
Madame Pepin.
Madame Trudeaux.
Pius IX.
Reine des Fleurs.
Robin Hood.
Sidonie.
Standard of Marengo.
William Jessie.

BOURBON.

Acidalie.
Ceres.
Dupetit Thouars.
George Cuvier.
Henri Lecoq.
La Gracieuse.
Madame Margat.
Menoux.
Souchet.
Souvenir de la Malmaison.

CHINA.

Mrs. Bosanquet.

A. S. H.

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THE SCOTTISH FLORIST AND HORTICULTURAL JOURNAL.
Edited by C. R. Sievewright, Esq.

WE are greatly pleased to find that the illustration is a lithograph of a beautiful hyacinth, *Laurens Koster*, shown amongst the best six, at the Caledonian Horticultural Society, March, 1853. It is from a daguerreotype, and therefore every petal is correct; and certainly we do not see why the portraits of flowers, as well as those of florists, may not be taken thus. The papers are very interesting. The Hyacinth—Autumnal Roses—Reproduction of Plants, in its Relation to Hybridizing and other Horticultural Operations—On exhibiting Spikes of Hollyhocks (which we extract)—Erythrina laurifolia—Filberts in Kent—Culture of the Peach—Antirrhinum majus, &c. We consider it a most excellent number.

ON EXHIBITING SPIKES OF HOLLYHOCKS.

BY WILLIAM PAUL, CHESHUNT.

THE practice of limiting the length of the spike is, we think, not desirable, for, if the flowers can be maintained in perfection, *the longer the spike the grander the effect.* In judging of the comparative merit of spikes, we would award the palm to those which were longest, broadest, and *best filled,* provided the shape of the individual flowers was equally good, the colours equally clear, and the collection as well varied. In judging, these points require to be considered, first, separately, and then collectively. By the term, "best filled," we mean to imply that the spike should form a perfect column of colour, free from gaps or interstices, not that it should be so crowded that the guard petals cannot freely unfold, for this we should consider as great a defect as if the spike was imperfectly filled. We should give the preference to spikes in which the flowers were fully expanded from the base to the summit, to those with

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expanded flowers below and buds above; in other words, a perfect spike should present an even and unbroken mass of colour from top to bottom.

Of course the shape of the flowers *individually* is of the very first importance, and in our opinion, the shape of the centre florets should be a trifle less than half a ball; they should be closely packed, and without "pockets," so that no anthers are seen. The centre and guard petals should be free from indentation or notch; the latter smooth, flat, and of good substance. The larger the individual flower the better, provided the shape be good; but if the flower be flimsy or ill-proportioned, great size produces coarseness, and is a disadvantage rather than otherwise. The most perfect flower I have yet seen, taking into consideration proportion, smoothness, substance, colour, and size, is the Beauty of Cheshunt, a variety originated here.

In exhibiting spikes, various modes have been adopted. We use painted flower pots, of the size called forty-eight, filled with sand, and inverted in pans; the hole is then made large enough to receive the lower end of the spike, which is pressed through into the sand, and fixed tight with slips off the stalk.

The Scottish Gardener.

The chief papers in this periodical are, Alterations—Ground-work and Planting. We like the following:

"A few words as to style, in laying out grounds anew, or rectifying bad outlines. Throw down your pegs, we say, with freedom, away with namby pamby feelings. Let your outlines be either straight, or bold curves; nothing, we think, looks so insipid as a would-be curve, which bears the impress of an intended straight line, devised by a crook-eyed operator. Let our readers believe that much of the pleasure derivable in perambulating gardens laid out with

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natural lines, is traceable to the variety and change created by bold planting; and in order to obtain the latter, the line of walk should in itself be bold in its curvatures. But such bold curves will look affected, unless a judicious course of planting be exercised; indeed it is not so much he who lays down the original lines as the planter, who gives the chief tone to the grounds. Almost every abrupt turn should have its accompaniment, in order to appear to force out and give a reason for the bend; and to accomplish this, there are various resources, not only groups or masses of planting, but trees, stumps, roots, statues, &c., may be occasionally put in request, although well planted masses must be chiefly relied on. In planting too, let the planter by all means avoid that insipidity or mannerism which would place the shrubs and trees as a commonplace gardener would place pots on a stage; the latter is indeed frequently justified in his proceedings, but the planter seldom. The principal features should be planted first, such as trees, or shrubs of peculiar character, intended to be prominent features. Then a good sprinkling of long-enduring evergreens, as a permanent base to the whole; and now the intervals may be filled with ordinary shrubs or undergrowths, and, indeed, fast-growing trees, if the situation and extent will justify their introduction. Around the margin, as a finishing stroke to the picture, plant the most ornamental shrubs of moderate growth; taking care to use those kinds liberally—especially evergreens—which sit well to the lawn, and are fitting to describe a permanent outline on the grass. Of course all this applies to what is termed shrub and tree planting, in those ordinary masses which are as it were the permanent garniture of the grounds, taken as a whole. All subsequent planting for sheer ornament or fancy's sake, may be considered as superaddition."

On the growing of Specimen Plants, by Mr. Geo. Glenny. Villa Platforms, by Mr. David Gorrie, is a

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very desirable paper, and we hope we shall be excused giving it the extra publicity of our pages, for we know many of our friends are building, or are about to build, houses, consequently the hints here given will, we are sure, be appreciated.

VILLA PLATFORMS.

BY MR. D. GORRIE.

THE cottage platform naturally conforms in its outlines to those of the cottage to which it serves as a base, the walk which it forms maintaining an equal breadth round the building, with such exceptions as occur when there are recesses in the building so narrow as to render it necessary to continue the platform in a straight line as it passes them. For the mansion-house, the extensive villa, or the castle, having numerous projections and recesses, the platform may be more simplified in its details, having fewer corners, and presenting a greater assemblage of straight lines. This will give it a greater character of grandeur—an effect to be aimed at in such cases; whereas, in cottage platforms, the desirable effect is that of neatness. It is essential, however, that the villa platform be made to turn at the sides of the building, and to maintain generally an equable breadth at the front and sides, though in details the breadth may vary much where there are numerous breaks in the line of the walls. The villa platform does not preclude the formation of a broad terrace, with a sloping bank; because, in fact, such a terrace, broad enough, it may be, for the turning of a carriage, or for an expanse of grass, with walks and flower beds, is insufficient as an architectural base for the building. The villa terrace is not a substitute for the cottage platform, and if made so narrow as to serve for a platform it ceases to be a terrace. A platform for a large building

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unites the house to the terrace, and the terrace unites it to the surrounding ground. The cottage platform is the only feature coming between the building and the ground around it, and thus is expected to fulfil the object both of the platform and terrace. The villa platform, having a terrace, with sloping banks under and beyond it, may best be constructed of mason work, or by forming a retaining or parapet wall, three or more steps in height, with finishings in accordance with the style of the building to which it serves as a base. Extending from six to ten feet on every side of the building, the distance being regulated by the height thereof, a platform of this kind gives the idea of a secure basement, and obviates that unseemly appearance presented by a house rising directly from the level surface of the ground. An architectural platform is to a house what the diverging root limbs disappearing gradually into the turf are to a tree; and a tree loses a great part of its beauty when it rises abruptly from the turf, from its having been too deeply planted.

Villas or mansions in the Italian style, can easily be ornamented by platforms—the parapet wall with its coping, the balustrade, the flight of steps, and the row of vases, or of ornamental flower pots, being peculiarly suitable for the style of architecture. In the Scottish baronial style, now so fashionable, the platform appears as a modern feature, and rigid adherents to precedent may object to its introduction, because the old castle wall rose directly from the ground. But styles of a former age cannot be in all respects copied; and even where architects attempt to imitate the ancient baronial style in its battlements, its corbels, it crow-steps, and its turrets, they are compelled to modernize in some things, such as in the size of the windows. The spirit of a style may be imitated, without a servile copying of details; and both the porch and the platform may be added to a baronial residence, if made to conform in their out-

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lines and mouldings to the general style of the building.

In the Swiss style, the platform would be covered by a veranda, or by a projecting roof. But where this protection from above is not afforded, the platform walk may be rendered in some measure dry and comfortable, by forming air chambers under it, such as have been formed in some gardens, for increasing the temperature of the soil. This chambering below may ensure a dry gravel walk even in wet weather; and a walk on which snow will melt as it falls, though the temperature may be so low as to permit of its lying deeply on the neighbouring ground. By combining the air chambers with hot air flues, or by some other means of heating, and by forming a veranda above, with a glass roof, and with moveable sashes to fit between the pillars in severe weather, the platform walk may partake of the high character belonging to a walk through a conservatory. Cheap glass must work changes in the styles of domestic architecture.

There is also a very interesting paper entitled, Sketches of Scottish Botany, by G. Lawson. The place is Duddingston Loch. We wish this example were followed by other botanists throughout the United Kingdom. It would afford information of the richest kind to their brother explorers of the haunts of Flora. An article On Various Grades of Gardeners, from *Glenny's Quarterly Review*, has some home truths in it. We know it has been asserted that people may do as they like with their own; but it is a hard struggle for a market gardener to make head against his titled competitor. Both this periodical and the previous one, emanating from Edinburgh, speak well for the talent brought to bear upon them.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF YORK FLORISTS.

June 1st.

Judges.—Mr. W. Willison, Whitby; Mr. S. Bromley, Macclesfield; with Messrs. Wood and Land, York.

TULIPS.

Premier Prize.—Lady Middleton, Steward.

Dark Feathered Bizarres.

1 Lord Lilford, Steward
2 Catafalque Superior, Pearson
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Magnum Bonum, Snow
5 Catafalque Superior, Crummock

Red Feathered Bizarres.

1 Plutus, Burnett
2 Prince Leopold, Steward
3 Earl Stanhope, Merryweather
4 Scotii, Hepton
5 Ditto, ditto

Dark Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, Hepton
2 Polyphemus Burnett
3 Polyphemus, Hepton
4 Sheet Anchor, ditto
5 Ditto, ditto

Red Flamed Bizarres.

1 Strong's King, Hepton
2 Pilot, ditto
3 Pilot, Merryweather
4 Ditto. ditto
5 Pilot, Hepton

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Maid of Orleans, Hepton
2 Ditto, Merryweather
3 Baguet, Cowper
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Ditto, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Elegans, Bell
2 Surpass Salvator Rosa, Hepton
3 Princess Royal, ditto
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Princess Royal, Snow

Feathered Roses.

Lady Middleton, Steward

1 Heroine, Hepton
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Ditto, ditto
5

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, Hepton
2 Aglaia, Somers
3 Aglaia, Hepton
4 Aglaia, Merryweather
5 Aglaia, Somers

Citron, or Tricoloured.

1 Lord Munster, Hepton
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Harlequin, Merryweather
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Duke of Bedford, Hepton

Flame without Feather.

1 Holmes's King, Hepton
2 Seedling, Bell
3 Ditto, ditto

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Pilot, Snow
2 Willison's King, Hepton
3 Pilot, ditto
4 Willison's King, Merryweather
5 Pilot, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Van Amburgh, Snow
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Van Amburgh, Steward
4 Van Amburgh, Merryweather
5 Princess Royal, Steward

Rose Breeders.

1 Catherine, Snow
2 Anastasia, ditto
3 Lady Leicester, ditto
4 Catherine, Merryweather
5 Ditto, ditto

Selfs.

1 Cotherston, Somers
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Min d'Or, Snow
5 Ditto, ditto

TULIP SHOW,

At Oldham, June 2nd.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., S. Cox
2 Magnum Bonum, J. Boardman
3 Surpass Catafalque, J. Smithies
4 Waterloo, R. Burghall
5 Royal Gem, S. Cocks
6 Trafalgar, J. Yarwood
7 Duke of Wellington, W. Chadwick

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, S. Cocks
2 Albion, S. Barlow
3 Lustre, J. Morton

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4 Charles X., S. Cox
5 Duke of Hamilton, J. Yarwood
6 Lacantique, J. Heap
7 Donzelli, S. Cocks

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Violet Amiable, S. Cox
2 Bienfait, ditto
3 Incomparable Surpassant, S. Barlow
4 Baguet, S. Cocks
5 Catherina, ditto
6 Sancta Sophia, ditto
7 Beauty, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bacchus, J. Taylor
2 Diana Bruin, B. Hilton
3 Beauty, S. Cocks
4 Democrat, ditto
5 Incomparable, J. Yarwood
6 Queen Charlotte, S. Barlow
7 Bienfait, ditto

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, J. Boardman
2 Heroine, S. Cocks
3 Bion, J. Smithies
4 Comte de Vergennes, S. Cox
5 Duchess of Newcastle, ditto
6 Andromeda, J. Smithies
7 Seedling, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Unique, J. Boardman
2 Rose Vesta, ditto
3 Aglaia, S. Cox
4 La Vandicken, ditto
5 Vainqueur, ditto
6 Triomphe Royale, J. Boardman
7 Lady Crewe, S. Barlow

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Duke of Kent, L. Ashmole
2 Charbonnier ditto
3 Catherina, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Sancta Sophia, L. Ashmole
2 Gargantua, ditto
3 Catherina, ditto

Rose Breeders

1 Marchioness of Waterford, S. Cox
2 Duchess of Newcastle, ditto
3 Seedling 106, L. Ashmole

Selfs.

White Flag, B. Hilton
Min d'Or, J. Morton

GREAT NORTH CHESHIRE TULIP SHOW.

This celebrated show was held at the house of Mr. Goddard, Sportsman's Inn, Hyde, on the 3rd of June, and a better display of blooms has seldom been seen in that neighbourhood. The judges were Mr. J. Wilde, Denton; Mr. J. Leach, Andenshaw; and Mr. J. Oldham, Mottram.

Pans of Six.—1. Bienfait, Charles X., Newcastle, Bienfait, Lustre, Triomphe Royale (a silver cup, value £5), W. Matley 2. Bienfait, Heroine, Charles X, Van Amburgh, Polyphemus, and Rose Unique, W. Peacock, Esq

Best Colt—Surpass Catafalque, E. Shuttleworth.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., S. Ardern
2 Magnum, R. Peacock
3 Rising Sun, H. Parsonage
4 Polyphemus, W. Peacock
5 Catafalque, E. Shuttleworth
6 Dentonian, J. Turner, Esq.
7 San Joe, J. Hilton
8 Duke of Devonshire, J. Turner, Esq.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, J. Hope
2 Albion, T. Fernally
3 Vivid, J. Turner, Esq.
4 Venice, J. Heap
5 Lustre, G. Green
6 Lord Milton, J Turner, Esq.
7 San Joe, J. Buckley
8 Old Dutch, J. Turner, Esq.

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Princess Royal, J. Heap, Esq.
2 Bienfait, W. Peacock, Esq.
3 Edgar, G. Green
4 Lancashire Hero, ditto
5 Baguet, H. Parsonage
6 H. D. B., J. Sidley
7 Lewold, S. Ardern
8 Grotius, J Sidley

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bacchus, J. Turner, Esq.
2 Incomparable, J. Hilton
3 Van Amburgh, W. Peacock, Esq.
4 Buckley's 71, J. Buckley
5 Cerise, S. Ardern
6 Alexander Magnus, R. Peacock
7 Unknown, W. Peacock, Esq.
8 Roi de Siam, T. Fernally

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, J. Buckley
2 Comte, R. Peacock
3 Andromeda, T. Thorniley
4 Jupiter, J. Sidley
5 Lady Crewe, G. Green
6 Bion, J. Turner, Esq.
7 Lady Grey, W. Mather
8 Fleur des dames, J. Heap

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, J. Turner, Esq.
2 Vesta, W. Peacock, Esq.
3 Triomphe Royale, J. Sedley
4 Aglaia, J. Heap
5 Guerrier, J. Buckley
6 Sissigambia, J. Heap
7 Cerise Royale, J. Turner, Esq.
8 Vandicken, T. Thoniley

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Staeus, J. Turner, Esq.
2 Orange seedling, ditto
3 Charbonnier, W. Peacock, Esq.

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4 Sunbeam, E. Peacock, Esq.
5 Duke of Hamilton, W Matley
6 Grace Darling, H. Parsonage

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Godet Parfait, J. Turner, Esq.
2 Buttenia, W. Peacock, Esq.
3 Sir H. Pottinger, J. Turner, Esq.
4 Lady Seymour, W. Peacock, Esq.
5 Unknown, E. Peacock, Esq.
6 Satarine, W. Matley

Rose Breeders.

1 Juliet, J. Turner, Esq.
2 Lord Derby, ditto
3 Lady Catherine Gordon, ditto
4 Kate Connor, G. Green
5 Arlette, J. Heap
6 Alice, J. Buckley

TULIP SHOW,

At Darlington, June 3.

Judges.—Mr. Parkinson, Derby; and Mr. Smith, Darlington

Pans of Nine.—1. Aglaia, Camillus, Triomphe Royale, Sheet Anchor, Pilot, Magnum Bonum, Ambassador de Holland, Princess Royal, and Beauty of the Plain, Mr. Somers, York. 2. Heroine, Aglaia, Mountain Sylph, Vivid, Sheet Anchor, Pilot, Lord Denman, Maid of Orleans, and Gibbons's Surpass Salvator Rosa, Mr. Hepton, York. 3. Pilot, Charles X., Polyphemus, Princess Royal, Midland Beauty, Britannia, Triomphe Royale, Heroine, and Aglaia, Mr. Morley, Darlington.

Pans of Three Breeders.—1. Pilot, Anastasia, and Madonna, Mr. Hepton. 2. Princess Royal, Pilot, and Van Amburgh, Mr. Steward, York.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Lord Lilford, Steward
2 Charles X., Wetherill

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Strong's King, Hepton
2 Polyphemus, Routledge

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Reid's Prince Albert, Hepton
2 Maid of Orleans, Somers

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Gibbons's Surpass Salvator Rosa, Hepton
2 Princess Royal, Routledge

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Hepton
2 Heroine, Routledge

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, Routledge
2 Dixon's Arlette, ditto

Selfs

1 Cotherstone, Somers
2 Cotherstone, Steward

GREAT SOUTH LANCASHIRE TULIP SOCIETY,

The twenty-first annual exhibition was held at the Nottingham Castle Inn, Denton, June 4th. The judges were Messrs. W. Chadwick, D. Potts, and W. Hall. A silver cup was awarded to W. Peacock, Esq., for the best pan of six rectified flowers, Charles X., Polyphemus, Bienfait, Alexander Magnus, Heroine, and Unique.

Feathered Premier.—Charles X., W. Matley.
Flamed Premier.—San Joe, T. Leech.
Breeder Premier.—Willison's King, J. Peacock.
Maiden Prize.—Surpass Catafalque, J. Baxendelle, Esq.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., W. Matley
2 Sidney, J. Naylor
3 Lord Lilford, ditto
4 Charbonnier, S. Ardern
5 Lord Melbourne, J. Naylor
6 Waterloo, Z. Peacock, Esq.
7 Surpass Catafalque, W. Matley
8 General Ross, J. Naylor

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, T. Leech
2 Polyphemus, J. Naylor
3 Albion, T. Thorniley, Esq.
4 Lustre, J. Sidney
5 Lord Milton, ditto
6 Cyclops, J. Naylor
7 Earl Radnor, J. Peacock
8 Charbonnier, J. Sidley

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Naylor
2 Baguet, T. Leech
3 Edgar, J. Naylor
4 Queen of the North, Z. Peacock, Esq.
5 Lancashire Hero, J. Haigh
6 Sir H. Pottinger, W. Peacock, Esq.
7 Duchess of Sutherland, J. Naylor
8 Grotius, T. Leech

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Salvator Rosa, W. Peacock, Esq.
2 Alexander Magnus, T. Leech
3 Incomparable, S. Ardern
4 Roi de Siam, ditto
5 Queen Charlotte, J. Haigh
6 Model of Perfection, J. Peacock
7 Bienfait, W. Matley
8 Violet Wallers, W. Peacock, Esq.

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Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Crewe, J. Naylor
2 Heroine, T. Leech
3 Comte, Z Peacock, Esq.
4 Andromeda, T. Thorniley, Esq.
5 Jupiter, J. Sidley
6 D. Newcastle, J. Naylor
7 Lady Grey, J. Haigh
8 Claudiana, J. Naylor

Flamed Roses.
1 Laentressant, J. Turner, Esq.
2 Aglaia, J. Peacock
3 Triomphe Royale, ditto
4 Queen Philippa, ditto
5 Lady Crewe, Z. Peacock, Esq.
6 Vesta, W. Peacock, Esq.
7 Bion, J. Naylor
8 La Vandicken, ditto

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Willison's King, J. Peacock
2 Ambition, W. Matley
3 Catafalque, T. Leech
4 Paragon, J. Naylor
5 Duke of Hamilton, W. Matley
6 Polyphemus, J. Peacock

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Midland Beauty, J. Peacock
2 Martha, J. Naylor
3 Sancta Sophia, ditto
4 Seedling 27, J. Peacock
5 Duke of Sussex, J. Naylor
6 Godet Parfait, ditto

Rose Breeders.
1 Lady Stanley, T. Leech
2 Seedling 48, J. Peacock
3 Lady C. Gordon, J. Turner, Esq.
4 Lady Suffield, W. Peacock, Esq.
5 Lady Crewe, H. Parsonage
6 Gem, J. Naylor

Selfs.
Min d'Or, J. Peacock
White Perfection, J. Naylor

TULIP SHOW.

At the Grapes Inn, Church-street, Newcastle-under-Lyne, June 6.

Judges.—Mr. W. Chadwick, Dukinfield; Mr. J. Jackson, Oldham; and Mr J. Oldham, Mottram.

Maiden Prizes.—1. Charles X., J. Hilton. 2. Charles X., G. B. Broadbent.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Charles X., S. Cocks, jun.
2 Sir Sidney Smith, ditto
3 Surpass Catafalque, J. Hilton
4 Royal Gem, S. Cocks, jun.
5 Waterloo, T. Moss
6 Cyclops, G. B. Broadbent
7 Schole's Delight, J. Hilton
8 San Joe, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.
1 Abercromby S. Cocks, jun.
2 Polyphemus, J. Dickens
3 Lustre, ditto
4 Charles X., S. Cocks, jun.
5 Albion, ditto
6 Cyclops, G. B. Broadbent
7 Surpass Catafalque, J. Yarwood
8 Smith's Alexander, T. Moss

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, J. Lunn
2 Baguet, J. Lunn
3 Violet Amiable, S. Cox, jun.
4 Catherine, J. Dickens
5 Buckley's 46, B. Haigh
6 Sancta Sophia, S. Cox, jun.
7 Lady Flora Hastings, B. Haigh.
8 Ambassador, J. Lunn

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Fair Flora, J. Newton
2 Lady Flora Hastings, J. Dicken
3 Bacchus, S. Cox, jun.
4 Duc de Bordeaux, R. Taylor
5 Sable Rex, G. B, Broadbent
6 Democrat, S. Cox, jun.
7 Incomparable, R. Taylor
8 Ashtonian, G. B. Broadbent

Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Crewe, S. Cox, jun.
2 Duchess of Newcastle, S. Cocks, sen.
3 Comte, S. Cocks, jun.
4 Heroine, S. Cox, sen.
5 Bion, J. Dickens
6 Hero of the Nile, J. Hilton
7 Dolittle, J. Hilton
8 Lady Grey, J. Haigh

Flamed Roses.
1 Rose Unique, S. Cocks, jun.
2 Vainqueur, J. Dickens
3 Aglaia, S. Cox, jun
4 Rose Vesta, J. Newton
5 Triomphe Royale, S. Cocks, jun.
6 La Vandicken, J. Haigh
7 Lord Hill, G. Scholes
8 Lady Crewe, J. Dickens

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Polyphemus, S. Cocks, jun.
2 Duke of Hamilton, W. Matley
3 Seedling, J. Haigh
4 Griswood's Grace Darling
5 Earl Radnor, S. Cocks, jun
6 Arlette, ditto

Selfs.
Min d'Or, S. Cocks, sen.
White seedling, G. Scholes

OXFORD PINK SHOW.

At the house of Mr. T. Davis, Cockpit Inn, Holywell, Oxford.

The blooms were of the finest quality, particularly the seedlings shown by Messrs. Looker and Carter. Mr. Looker showed six of his new seedlings, which

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will be a great addition to this most beautiful class of flowers, the edges of the petals being smooth, lacing dense, and white pure. The flower to which the seedling prize was awarded was a truly noble specimen of the pink, of full size, large petal, smooth edge, lacing dark purple, evenly laid on, with a pure white.

1st Prize Mr. T. Looker, with Looker's John Stevens, Vesta, Juliet, Diadem, and Unexpected, Colcutt's Sappho, and Looker's Attraction. 2nd. Mr H. Carter, with Carter's David Stevens, Turner's Sarah, Optima, and Esther, Carter's Harry, Read's Mary Ann, and Carter's Amelia. 3rd. Mr. W. Plaster, with Willmer's Surplice, Looker's Mary Ann, Kerr's Harriet, Looker's Enchantress and Achilles, Read's Mary Ann, and Looker's Princess Helena. 4th. Mr. H. Bell, with Turner's Optima, Long's Sarah, Bell's seedling, Kerr's Harriet, Smith's Whipper-in, Long's No. 2, and Kirtland's Dr. Daubeny.

1st Seedling Prize. Mr. T. Looker, with Looker's John Stevens.

Prizes given in Plants, by Mr. T. Looker, for the best Three Blooms —1. Mr. H. Carter, with Turner's Sarah, and Long's Charles and Sarah. 2. Mr. M. Bell with Turner's Optima and Sarah, and Long's seedling.

PINK SHOW,

At Mr. Lewis Greaves's, Red Lion Inn, Newcastle-under-Lyme, July 9.

Judges.—Mr. E. Harding, Stoke-road, near Newcastle; Mr. H. Bradshaw, Eastwood Vale, Shelton.

Purple-laced.

Premier.—Jones's Huntsman, E Barker
1 Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, T. Bailey
2 Jones's Huntsman, W. Griffiths
3 Taylor's Mango, H. Eaton
4 Norris's Blackeyed Susan, ditto
5 Bradshaw's Greensides, R. Moorley
6 Sambo, E. Barker
7 Bow's Suarrow, R. Moorley
8 Seedling, W. Griffiths
9 Pearson's Professor, E Barker
10 Kay's Advance, H. Eaton

Red-laced.

Premier.—Etchell's Susanna, W. Griffiths.
1 Lee's Joseph Sturge, E. Barker
2 Williams's Thirza, ditto
3 Etchell's Susanna, W. Griffiths
4 Brundret's Sir William, ditto
5 Parker's Dr. Hepworth, T Bailey
6 Southern's Bonny Bet, W. Griffiths
7 Jackson's Criterion, H. Eaton
8 Moorley's Dorothy, R. Moorley
9 Slater's Lady Antrobus, T. Bailey
10 Seedling, R. Moorley

Black and White.

Premier.—Millman's Lilla, E Barker.
1 Norris's Blackeyed Susan, R. Moorley
2 Kay's Mary, W. Griffiths
3 Wigley's Snowball, ditto
4 Bradshaw's Margaret, E. Barker
5 Gregson's Lady Boldhaughton, R. Moorley
6 Millman's Lilla, ditto
7 Fairbrother's Beauty of Blackburn, W. Griffiths
8 Beauty of Home, H. Eaton
9 Whalley's Beauty of Clayton le-Moor, ditto
10 Virgin Queen, W. Griffiths

PINK SHOW.

The third annual pink show, between the Staffordshire Potters and Macclesfield growers took place on July 9, at the house of Mr. W. Carke, Queen's Head Inn, Burslem, when the prizes were awarded as follows :—

1st Stand. Captain, Joseph Sturge, Kay's Mary, S. Bromley, Macclesfield. 2nd. Mango, Joseph Sturge, Blackeyed Susan, J. Shone, Macclesfield. 3rd. Greensides, Josh. Sturge, Blackeyed Susan, C. Bradshaw, Pitts Hill, Staffordshire.

Purple-laced.

1 Blackeyed Susan, J. Shone
2 Mango, S. Bromley
3 Blackeyed Susan, J. Shone
4 Duke of St. Albans, C. Bradshaw
5 Victory, W. Wright
6 Huntsman, S. Bromley
7 Clubace, ditto
8 Greensides, W. Wright

Red-laced.

1 Joseph Sturge, T. Boot
2 Susanna, C. Bradshaw
3 Joseph Sturge, J Shone
4 Doctor Hepworth, W. Wright
5 Susanna, J. Shone
6 Moorley's Dorothy, ditto
7 Sir Robert Peel, ditto
8 Pimblott's Jane, S. Bromley

Black and White.

1 Blackeyed Susan, J. Shone
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Kay's Mary, ditto
4 Beauty of Home, S. Bromley
5 Lady Boldhaughton, W. Wright
6 Beauty of Clayton, J. Shone
7 Overall, ditto
8 Kay's Mary, W. Wright

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PINK SHOW.

The third annual pink show, between the Macclesfield and Staffordshire Pottery growers, took place on July 16, at the house of Mr. R. Johnson, the Gardeners' Tavern, Common, Macclesfield, and the prizes were awarded as follows :—

1st Stand. Blackeyed Susan, Joseph Sturge, Kay's Mary, S. Bromley, Macclesfield. 2nd. Jones's Huntsman. Joseph Sturge, Blackeyed Susan, T. Boot, Staffordshire. 3rd. Blackeyed Susan, Joseph Sturge, Blackeyed Susan, J. Shone.

Purple-laced.

1 Blackeyed Susan, S. Bromley
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Jones's Huntsman, C. Bradshaw
4 Mango, J Shone
5 Greensides, C. Bradshaw
6 Beauty of Rochdale, T. Boot
7 Duke of St. Albans, ditto
8 Clubace, S. Bromley

Red-laced.

1 Joseph Sturge, J. Shone
2 Susanna, ditto
3 Joseph Sturge, ditto
4 Stockwell, S. Bromley
5 Pilot, T. Boot
6 Richard Cobden, J. Shone
7 Dr. Hepworth, C. Bradshaw
8 Sir Robert Peel, J. Shone

Black and White.

1 Kay's Mary, C. Bradshaw
2 Kay's Mary, W. Wright
3 Virgin Queen, S. Bromley
4 Beauty of Clayton, W. Wright
5 Beauty of Home, J. Shone
6 Beauty of Blackburn, S. Bromley
7 Overall, ditto
8 Lady Boldhaughton, ditto

PINK SHOW,

At Mr. George Wild's, Grapes Inn, Trippet-lane, Sheffield, July 11.

Kettles.—1. Mango, C. Jackson. 2. Sturge, P. Moore. 3. Mango, A. Priest. Silver Watch, value £3 5s.—Miss Auckland, G. Brassington. Society's Cup—Miss Auckland, W. Benn.

Purple-laced.

Premier—Greensides, Henry Hides
1 Beauty of Deighton, H. Hides
2 Mango, C. Jackson
3 Burgin's Mango, A. Knutt
4 Duke of Devonshire, ditto
5 Beauty of Rochdale, P. Moore
6 Huntsman, H. Hydes
7 Greensides, G. Brassington
8 Miss Auckland, W. Green

Red-laced.

Premier.—Sturge, P. Moore.
1 Sturge, W. Benn
2 Chatterton's Favourite, ditto
3 Cant's Criterion, C. Calton
4 Susanna, W. Benn
5 Pride, ditto
6 Dr. Hepworth, J. Simmonite
7 Criterion, W. Green
8 Stockwell, A. Knutt

Plain.

Premier—Virgin Queen, A. Knutt.
1 Kay's Mary, J. Simmonite
2 Lady Frost, H. Hides
3 Beauty of Home, W. Benn
4 Repeal, J. Powel
5 Miss Jessop, H. Hides
6 Lilla, G. Hoyland
7 Lady Boldhaughton, A. Knutt
8 Beauty of Blackburn, J. Simmonite

Seedlings.

1 Terror, J Simmonite
2 Gipsy King, ditto
3 Gipsy Queen, ditto
4 Miss Sarah, A. Nutt
5 Consolation, J. Simmonite

PINK SHOW,

At Mr. F. Green's, King's Arms Inn, Shelton, July 16.

Purple-laced.

Premier.—Jones's Huntsman, E. Barker
1 Jones's Huntsman, T. Bailey
2 Norris's Blackeyed Susan, H. Eaton
3 Teebay's Thunderer, ditto
4 Kay's Advance, ditto
5 Duke of St. Albans, T. Bailey
6 Bradshaw's Greensides, R. Moorley
7 Hand's Pilot, W. Griffiths
8 Howard's Beauty of Rochdale, E. Barker
9 Norris's Clubace, ditto
10 Seedling, R. Moorley

Red-laced.

Premier.—Etchell's Susanna, H. Eaton
1 Lee's Joseph Sturge, T. Bailey
2 Etchell's Susanna, H. Eaton
3 Parker's Dr Hepworth, E Barker
4 Jackson's Criterion, H. Eaton
5 Lightbody's Louis Tasso, E. Barker
6 Moorley's Dorothy, W. Griffiths
7 Martin's Splendens, T. Bailey
8 Brundret's Sir William, R. Moorley
9 Slater's Lady Antrobus, T. Bailey
10 Seedling, R. Moorley

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Black and White.

Premier.—Kay's Mary, W. Griffiths.
1 Kay's Mary, W. Griffiths
2 Fairbrother's Beauty of Blackburn, R. Moorley
3 Norris's Blackeyed Susan, E. Barker
4 Millman's Lilla, W. Griffiths
5 Whalley's Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, T. Bailey
6 Bradshaw's Margaret, E. Barker
7 O'Brien's Virgin Queen, R. Moorley
8 Gregson's Lady Boldhaughton, do.
9 Wigley's Snowball, W. Griffiths
10 Parry's Union, H. Eaton

PINK SHOW.

At the Old Billy, Higher Town, Great Harwood, July 16.

Premier Prize, Blackeyed Susan, T. Chippendale.

Purple-laced.

1 Blackeyed Susan, T. Chippendale
2 Huntsman, J. Lightbound
3 Mango, ditto
4 Pilot, Wilkinson
5 Eleas, J. Lightbound
6 Duke of St. Albans, ditto
7 Attraction, ditto

Red-laced.

1 Joseph Sturge, J. Lightbound
2 Susanna, Wilkinson
3 Lady Antrobus, J. Lightbound
4 Sir William, J. Lightbound
5 Dr. Hepworth, ditto
6 Richard Cobden, ditto
7 Admiral Codrington, ditto

Black and White.

1 Beauty, J. Lightbound
2 Jessop, ditto
3 Beauty of Home, ditto
4 Kay's Mary, Burns
5 Margaret, J. Lightbound
6 Broom Girl, T. Chippendale
7 Snowball, J. Lightbound

CARNATION SHOW,

In the Garden of Mr. William Colcutt, St. Aldate's, Oxford.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Admiral Curzon, Maltby
2 Lord Rancliffe, Plaister
3 Admiral Curzon, Belcher

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Earl Grey, Maltby
2 Maltby's Misnomer, Plaister
3 Falconbridge, Belcher

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Chadwick's Brilliant, Maltby
2 Puxley's Acca, Belcher
3 Chadwick's Brilliant, Plaister

Purple Flakes.

1 Beauty of Woodhouse, Belcher
2 Kirtland's William Hobbs, Maltby
3 Beauty of Woodhouse, Colcutt

Rose Flakes.

1 Ariel, Kirtland
2 Ariel, W. Colcutt
3 Lady Gardiner, Plaister

PICOTEES.

Light-edged Red.

1 Youell's Gem, Colcutt
2 Youell's Gem, Kirtland
3 Youell's Gem, Maltby
4 Youell's Gem, Looker

Heavy-edged Red.

1 James II., Colcutt
2 Achilles, Looker
3 Norman, Maltby

Light-edged Purple.

1 Eliza, Payne
2 Nea Robinson, Kirtland
3 Ophelia, Looker
4 Lady Harriet Moore, Colcutt

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Lord Nelson, Kirtland
2 Lord Nelson, Looker
3 Portia, Cook
4 Lord Nelson, Colcutt

Light-edged Rose.

1 Mrs. Barnard, Maltby
2 Mrs. Barnard, Payne
3 Mrs. Barnard, Looker

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Princess Royal, Colcutt
2 Princess Royal, Maltby
3 Venus, Payne

HEREFORD CARNATION AND PICOTEE SHOW.

At the Assembly Rooms, City Arms.

CARNATIONS.

Best Twelve Blooms.—Count Pauline, Jenny Lind, Sarah Payne, Vesta, Admiral Curzon, Telemachus, Mayor of Oldham, Harriet, Earl Spencer, Victoria, British Hero, and Queen of England, Mr. Smith.

Extra Prize.—Rising Sun (rose flake), Mr. Dickens.

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Scarlet Bizarres.
1 Admiral Curzon, Smith
2 Admiral Curzon, Dickens
Crimson Bizarres.
1 Hastings's Rainbow, Smith
2 Cartwright's Rainbow, S. Williams
Pink and Purple Bizarres.
1 Sarah Payne, Smith
2 Telemachus, S. Williams

Scarlet Flakes.
1 William IV., Reynolds
2 Queen Victoria, Captain Napleton
Purple Flakes.
1 Earl Spencer, Dickens
2 Earl Spencer, Smith
Rose Flakes.
1 Lovely Ann, Smith
2 Queen of England, S. Williams

PICOTEES.

Best Twelve Blooms.—Princess Alice, Prince Arthur, Alfred, Ophelia, Venus, John's Prince Albert, King James, Enchantress, Isabella, Duke of Rutland, Mrs. Norman, and Magnificent, Mr. Smith.

Best Six Blooms.—Isabella, Venus, Princess Alice, Portia, Magnificent, and Lady Chesterfield, Mr. Adams. 2nd. Prince Albert, Lady Sale, Isabella, Prince of Wales, Elegant, and Echo, Captain Napleton.

Heavy-edged Purple.
1 Alfred, Smith
2 Alfred, Dickens
Light-edged Purple.
1 Brinklow's Prince Albert, Smith
2 Juliet, Adams
Heavy-edged Red.
1 Magnificent, Smith
2 King James, Adams

Light-edged Red.
1 Youell's Gem, Smith
2 Youell's Gem, Adams
Heavy-edged Rose.
1 Venus, Smith
Yellow.
1 Euphemia, Adams
2 Euphemia, Smith

CARNATION SHOW.

At the Three Stags' Heads, Pinstone-street, Sheffield, August 8.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.
1 Admiral Curzon, J. Archer
2 Prince of Wales, J. Benn
3 Splendid, A. Knutt
4 Knowsthorpe Pet, ditto
5 Lord Lewisham, ditto
6 Duke of Sutherland, J. Archer
Pink Bizarres.
1 Lork Milton, J. Benn
2 Duke of Bedford, J. Archer
3 Paul Pry, J. Benn
4 William Caxton, J. Archer
5 Bloomsbury, T. Benn
6 Misfortune, A. Knutt
Scarlet Flakes.
1 Firebrand, W. H. Allsebrook
2 Prince of Wales, ditto
3 Cradley Pet, A. Knutt
4 Brinklow's Ulysses, T. Archer
5 King of Scarlets, A. Knutt
6 Scarlet Flake, F. Benn
Rose Flakes.
1 Lady Ely, J. Archer
2 Lady of the Lake, J. Benn
3 Ariel, A. Knutt
4 Unknown, J. Benn
5 Lady of the Manor, F. Benn
6 Queen Victoria, A. Knutt
Purple Flakes.
1 Premier, W. Allsebrook
2 Companion, S. Pryor
3 Mr. Jepson, F. Benn
4 Earl Spencer, S. Pryor
5 Princess Charlotte, Benn
6 Esther, W. Allsebrook

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Purple.
1 Nulli Secundus, S. Pryor
2 Catchfly, T. Oxley
3 Mary Ellen, A. Knutt
4 Seedling, Eclipse, J. Archer
5 Sarah Hastings, W. Allsebrook
6 Gammertine, J. Benn
Light-edged Purple.
1 Seedling, Miss Wilson, J. Archer
2 Amethyst, A. Knutt
3 Enchantress, W. Allsebrook
4 Blue Perfect, S. Pryor
5 Eliza Cook, J. Benn
6 Juliet, ditto

Heavy-edged Red.
1 King John, S. Pryor
2 Mrs. Horner, A. Knutt
3 Yorkshire Hero, ditto
4 Seedling, Miss Kay, J. Archer
5 Venus, J. Benn
6 M. Thiers, A. Knutt
Light-edged Red.
1 Seedling, Sir Richard, J. Archer
2 Seedling, Cupid, ditto
3 Unknown, ditto
4 Hector, A. Knutt
5 Seedling, J. Archer
6 Lady of the Lake, A. Knutt

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MIDLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At Derby, August 8.

Judges.—Mr. J. F. Wood, F.H.S., the Coppice; and T. Adams, Esq., Derby.

Twelve Carnations.—1. Mr. Bayley, with Rembrandt, Sarah Payne, Firebrand, Admiral Curzon, Lord Lewisham, Premier, Lovely Ann, Titian (Bayley), Admiral Curzon, and Firebrand. 2. Mr. E. S. Dodwell, with Admiral Curzon, Premier, Admiral Curzon, Beauty of Woodhouse, Wood's William IV., Lorenzo, Rachel, Cradley Pet, Firebrand, Lord Milton, Sarah Payne, and Flora's Garland. Equal 3rd, Mr. Parkinson and Mr. Fisher. Mr. Parkinson's twelve were, Brutus, Premier, William IV. (Wilson), Premier, Antonio, Milton, Hamlet, Firebrand, Queen Victoria, Lorenzo, seedling, and Squire Trow. Mr. Fisher's were, Firebrand, Premier, Admiral Curzon, Lord Milton, Admiral Curzon, Lorenzo, Lord Rancliffe, and five seedlings.

Twelve Picotees.—1. Mr. E S. Dodwell, with Princess Helena, Miss Holbeck, Prince of Wales, Alfred, seedling, Duke of Rutland, Ophelia, Venus, Duke of Devonshire, Green's Queen, Mrs. Norman, and Mrs. Barnard. 2. Mr. Bayley, with Alfred, Seedling No. 10, Bridesmaid, Duke of Devonshire, Ophelia, Prince of Wales, Duke of Rutland, Venus, Venus, Lorina, Giulio Romana, and Duke of Rutland. 3. Mr. Fisher, with seedling (Dodwell), Bellona, Miss Rosa, Venus, No. 70 (Dodwell), Jeanette, seedling (Dodwell), Haidee, Lord Nelson, Duke of Rutland, Hogarth, and Seedling. 4. Mr. Parkinson, with Lady Franklin, No. 70 (Dodwell), Miss Rosa, Mrs. Norman, Lorina, Jeanette, Duke of Rutland, Mrs. Barnard, Prince of Wales, seedling, Isabella, and Mary.

LEEDS CENTRAL FLORAL SOCIETY

The above society held their annual show of carnations, on Tuesday, Aug. 16, at the house of Mr. W. Dobbings, Golden Cock Inn, Leeds. There was a great number of blooms staged, and there is evidently great improvement in the cultivation of this flower taking place in this neighbourhood, the quality of the flowers exhibited being far superior to anything before seen in Leeds, attributable, no doubt, in a great measure to Mr. Dodwell's valuable suggestions. The judges were Messrs. I. Rhodes; I. Smith, Bradford; G. Foster, Rothwell Haigh.

Premier Prizes.—1. Wilson's William IV., W. Gray. 2. Bramma's Uncle Tom (seedling), I. Cawthorn. 3. Curzon, W. Gray.

1st Pan.—Curzon, Milton, Hepworth's Rose Helen, Great Northern, Wm. IV. King James, and Alfred, W. Gray. 2nd. Curzon, Paul Pry, Bramma's Uncle Tom, Beauty of Woodhouse, Firebrand, King James, and Alfred, I. Cawthorn. 3rd. Curzon, Milton, Lovely Ann, Earl Spencer, Cobden (seedling), Seedling No. 1, and Alfred, G. Wood.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Curzon, W. Gray
2 Leader, ditto
3 Palladin, ditto
4 Knowsthorpe Pet, ditto
5 Ely's Joseph Paxton, ditto
6 Gameboy, I. Cawthorn

Pink Bizarres.

1 Caxton, I. Cawthorn
2 Milton, E. Schofield
3 Black Diamond, G. Wood
4 Paul Pry, E. Schofield
5 Captain Franklin, T. Wainman
6 President, W. Gray

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Firebrand, I. Cawthorn
2 William IV., ditto
3 King of Scarlets, ditto
4 Boshell's Paxton, W. Gray
5 Marquis of Granby, I. Cawthorn
6 Cobden (seedling), G. Wood

Purple Flakes.

1 Hepworth's Jenny Jones, I. Bramma
2 Earl Spencer, I. Cawthorn
3 Miss Thornton, Hardwick
4 Lady Peel, I. Boshell
5 Beauty of Woodhouse, I. Cawthorn
6 Squire Trow, G. Wood

Rose Flakes.

1 Bramma's Uncle Tom, I. Cawthorn
2 Hepworth's Rose Helen, W. Gray
3 Apollo, I. Cawthorn
4 Chadwick's Rebecca, E. Schofield
5 Lovely Ann, G. Wood
6 Lady Ely, I. Cawthorn

PICOTEES.

Red.

1 Ely's Mrs. Horner, E. Schofield
2 Headly's King James, I. Cawthorn
3 Mrs. Norman, E. Schofield
4 Yorkshire Hero, W. Gray
5 Gem, G Wood
6 Lady Stanley, W. Gray

Purple.

1 Regina, W. Gray
2 Robert Burns, ditto
3 Sir G. Goodman, I. Cawthorn
4 Alfred, G. Wood
5 Miss Boshell (seedling), I. Boshell
6 Hepworth's Mary Helen, I. Cawthorn

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TO OUR READERS.

AGAIN we have the pleasing duty of thanking our numerous readers for the liberal patronage which our little work receives on every hand, and also our friends who have so kindly contributed the records of their experience, and thus enriched its pages, and made it a source of rational enjoyment and delight to those who love their gardens; and we trust the volume just completed will be found in no way inferior to its predecessors.

In recommencing our labours, for another year, we shall be glad to enjoy the same efficient assistance we have hitherto experienced; and shall thankfully receive any suggestion calculated to improve our little periodical. We are glad to find that we have readers in Australia, the United States, Canada, and on the Continent of Europe, from whence we have received some interesting communications, which we trust will afford instruction as well as amusement to our readers. We need only observe how pleased we are to see or hear of anything new in Flora's beauteous domain, and what a feeling of satisfaction we experience in endeavouring to impart this information to hundreds of others who are equally anxious with ourselves. And what a field we have opening before us in those almost hermetically sealed countries, Japan and China; whilst Oregon, the Brazils, and other countries are undergoing a more rigid scrutiny; so that we may expect an immense accession to the beautiful plants already received from those parts. And at home, in florists' flowers, what progress we shall have to report! Improvement on every side! Seedlings are now raised by thousands; and whilst the motto of almost everything is "onward," floriculture does not lag behind. This is attributable in a great measure to the floral press; and we bear willing testimony to the good resulting from the labours of our contemporaries, and in conclusion, most earnestly do we wish them all the success that their exertions to uphold our delightful as well as scientific pursuit so richly merit.

J. F. W.

THE COPPICE, NEAR NOTTINGHAM,
DECEMBER 1ST, 1853.

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INDEX.

PAGE.

A May song for the *Midland Florist* 128
American High Bush blackberry, the 353
An August visit to Mr. E. G. Henderson's nursery 15
Andromeda formosa 182
Anecdote connected with the potato disease 351
Aphis lanigera, or American bug 194
Apples, Cox's Pomona, Cox's Orange Pippin, Mannington Pearmain, 376; Queen Caroline 385
Aster pivone 352
A successful gooseberry grower 349
Auricula, cultivation of the 153
Azaleas, propagation of greenhouse 346
Balsams in three styles of growth 377
Bedding plants, list of 107
Bedding roses 274
Begonia fuchsioides 243
Bizarre carnation, on the marking of a 112
Breeder tulips, breaking seedling 348
Caiota, the 188
Calceolaria, propagating the 280
Calceolarias, to raise from seed 157
violacea, 149; Magnificent, Golden Chain, Sultana 183
Camellia, propagation of the 189
Campanula pyramidalis, cultivation of the 54
Carnation, Lord Byron, P.F... 127
Carnations and picotees, descriptive list of 35, 70, 99, 133, 165, 202
novelties in 370
remarks on the late "towns exhibition" of 113
Castanea variegata tricolor 240
Cheiranthus variegatus 241
Cherry, Belle Agathe 375
Cherry trees, a new plan to protect from birds 63
Chinese primrose, culture of the 381

Digitized by Google

PAGE.
Cinerarias, Catherine Seaton, Hammersmith Beauty, Mrs. Sidney Herbert 87
Cineraria, the 141
Collinsia bartsiæfolia 271
Coppiceana 10, 80
Cotoneaster thymifolia minor 14
Crimson flax, the 271
Cucumbers, Model, Hunter's Long Prolific, Essex Hero, 87; Tiley's Captivation, Phenomena 88
Currants, Loudon or Goshen Red, Imperial Red 150
Currant, the Goshen Red 376
Currant trees, pruning 246
Cyclamens 369
Cytisus purpurea salicifolia 14
Dahlia catalogues 126
Dahlias, a few of the best, new and old 143
cultivation of 177
list of, with their treatment 221
successful, in 1853 361
Fancy, list of, with their treatment 251
Escallonia macrantha 86
Exhibition at the London Horticultural Society's rooms .. 28
Fancy geranium, formosissima.. 87
Filberts 357
Floral exhibitions—
Amateur Tulip Society 257
Ancient Society of York Florists, tulips 399
Auricula show 254
Carnation show 405, 406
Falkirk Horticultural Society, auriculas 194
Felton Union of Florists and Horticulturists 355
Great national tulip show 196, 226
Great North Cheshire tulip show 400
Great South Lancashire Tulip Society 401
Halifax auricula show 196
Hereford carnation and picotee show 405
Huddersfield Pansy Society 288
Leeds Central Floral Society, auriculas and polyanthuses, 195; carnations 407
Leicester Society of Amateur Florists, tulips, 258; roses, pinks 324
Levenshulme tulip show 290
London Horticultural Society 253
Lowton tulip growers' annual meeting 285
Manchester and South Lancashire Tulip Society 256
Midland Horticultural Society, tulips, 228; carnations 325, 407
National carnation and picotee show 291
National Floricultural Society 196
Oxford pink show 402
Pink show 18, 291, 323, 403, 404, 405
Richard Prescott's tulip meeting 285
Royal South London Floricultural Society 225
Stockport auricula show 195
Stockport Floral Society, tulips 260
Tulip show 254, 255, 256, 259, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 321, 322, 356, 399, 401, 402
William Postlethwaite's tulip meeting 258
Floral jottings 237

Digitized by Google

PAGE.
Flowers and plants, jottings on 7, 56
new, exhibited at the National Horticultural Society's meetings 118
on dressing 122
Frame ground, the.. 158
Frost, effects of, on several new trees and shrubs 145
Foxgloves and ferns 268
Fuchsias, Glory, Mrs. Patterson, Lady Franklin 86
list of some of the best 30
Geach's self-acting fumigator 275
Geraniums, Foster's Shylock, 86; floribundum 193
Gillia 271
Gooseberries of 1852, analysis of 19
on judging seedling 374
Gooseberry, Grace Darling seedling 347
Great National Tulip Society, Nottingham meeting of the 120, 150
Hollyhock, culture of the 379
Hollyhocks, a few remarks on English and Scotch 339
first-rate 264
on exhibiting spikes of 393
Horticultural Society of London, the 189
Hyacinths, descriptive list of 336
Hybrids 155
Iberis umbellata variegata 241
Ilex nobelis, cymosa, 14; furcata, macrocarpa 241
Jottings from an amateur tulip grower 349
Juniperus eleganta variegata 14
Larix variegata 240
Leeks, how to grow for exhibition 385
Leschenaultias 22
Lilium Japonicum var. punctatum 278
Lily, propagation of the 868
Liquid manure 82
Lobelias, St. Clare, 149; Roi Leopold 150
Machine for transplanting trees 147
Melons, Golden Queen, Incomparable 87
Midland Horticultural Society 325
Mimulus purpurea maculata, Laingii, rubinus perfecta, sagi huras 86
Moles in gardens 187
to kill 62
My garden ..32, 64, 97, 130, 162, 192, 221, 250, 283, 319, 353
National carnation and picotee show, the.. 261
National Carnation and Picotee Society 315
National Floricultural Society, awards of the .. 310, 347
National pink show.. 60
National tulip schedule of 1853, a few remarks on the .. 45
National tulip show for 1853, the 197
National tulip show, the 184
New and singular varieties of the common yew and Turkey oak 279
New plants on the Continent, notes of 357
Nolana grandiflora alba 271
Notes from my seedling tulip book 301
Notes on a few small fruits, during the summer of 1853 .. 269
Noyer fertile 240
Nymphea gigantea 382
Obituary 61, 92, 157, 281

Digitized by Google

PAGE.
Onions, not a bad crop of 352
Opinions on flowers .. 183, 217, 241, 272, 308, 344
Orchard and fruit reminiscences of 1852 77
Orchis, the 277
Our visit to Hereford 293
Pæonia moutan 344
Pansies, list of Scottish varieties 84
Yellow Model, Sovereign, Mrs. Blackwood 87
Peach, Champion 376
Pear, Beadnell's Seedling 271
Peas, a few good 13
Pentstemon atrocœrulescens 183
Petunia dalbaeriensis 182
(Nierembergia) intermedia 89
the, as a conservatory plant 384
Phlox Dubois Criterion 183
Drummondii, cultivation of 305
Pink, a few remarks on the 331
the 372
Pinks, showing 350
standard for.. 126
Plums, Dunmore, 271; Fellemberg and Guthrie's Apricot .. 352
Polyanthus, cultivation of the 53
Polygonum Sieboldii 351
Potatoes, winter or new 157
Purple-leaved mezereon 272
Pyrus aucuparia aurea 240
Queries— PAGE. PAGE.
Ants .. .. answered, 248
Apples .. .. —161, 282
Balsam seed .. .. — 386
Berberis dulcis .. .. .. — 161
Best kitchen apple to bud on a Keswick .. 319 — 319
Best plants for covering a trellis .. .. — 281
Biennials .. .. — 249
Caliph tulip .. .. — 353
Camellia seed, proper time to sow .. .. — 192
Carnations .. .. — 249
Delphinium Barlowii .. .. .. — 386
Fancy geraniums .. .. .. — 96
Flowers of inferior quality taking prizes .. 32 — 32
Glycine sinensis .. .. .. — 387
Gyneria argentea .. .. .. 32 — 32
Hardy climbing plants .. .. .. — 191
Heating a conservatory with a gaslight .. 191 — 191
Helianthums.. .. .. .. — 389
Herbaceous pæonies .. .. .. — 161
Ingram's Prince of Wales strawberry .. 160 — 160
Leaves for hotbeds .. .. .. 191 — 220
Lettuce .. .. — 248
Liquid manure for carnations and picotees .. 199 — 247
Liquid manure for celery .. .. — 248
Lord Rancliffe polyanthus .. .. — 32
Magnolia grandiflora .. .. .. — 192
Maltster apple .. .. .. — 386
Mistletoe .. .. — 249

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Queries—	PAGE.		PAGE.
Mr. T. Chippendale and the tulip show at the		answered	273
General Wolfe	159	—160,	249
National tulip show		— 96,	160
Pears		—	96
Pinks		—	249
best twelve Lancashire		—	282
Pike's Pearmain apple		—	248
Pit for forcing Strawberries	93	—	129
Rabbits		—	248
Rhododendrons	95	—	95
Roasting the surface of clay land	191	—	191
Roses		—	386
layering		—	96
striking cuttings of		—	161
Saxifraga oppositifolia		—	387
Scarlet and fancy geraniums, twelve best of each	318	—	318
Schedule of prizes at the national tulip exhibition	93	—	94
Scotch hollyhocks, list of	95	—	95
Stanwick nectarine, Bleeker's Scarlet, Columbia, Huling's Superb, Jefferson, and Reine Claude Bavay plums	31	—	32
Strawberries		—	386
The cup at the National		—	249
The Wistaston correspondence		—	160
Tongue's Prudence carnation	94	—	94
Tulip, Abbot's Bizarre		—	386
Tulips	63	—	63
Tulips		—248,	386
best six this season		—	282
Variegated geraniums		—	96
Verbena seed	318	—	318
Vines in pots		—	248
Window plants		—	192
Wireworms		—	161
Rabbits, to prevent destroying trees and plants ..		..	186
Red spider, the		..	277
Reviews—			
American Gardeners' Chronicle, the		..	62
Gardeners' Record, the		..	92
Turner's Florist, Fruitist, and Garden Miscellany ..		30,	387
Scottish Florist and Horticultural Journal, the ..		..	393
Scottish Gardener, the	128,	158,	394
Rhododendrons, Standard of Flanders, Duc de Brabant, 149; jasminiflorum, 182; Princess Mary, superbissimum album, 183; pardolotan		..	240
Rhubarb, description of a few sorts of		..	25
Rhubarb show		..	281
Roses, jottings on		..	365
new, for 1853		..	105
stocks for		..	388
Saracha procumbens		..	182
Schizanthus violaceus, mistanthe pendiculata ..		..	271
Seedling gooseberries of 1853, notices of		..	305
Seedling tulips, a few remarks on		..	48
a hint to raisers of		..	245
the Chellaston		..	188
Single anemone		..	3

Digitized by Google

PAGE.
Spring-flowering bulbs 383
Strawberries, cultivation of 233
forcing, with a few remarks on their cultivation .. 50
Nicholson's Fillbasket, Nicholson's Captain Cook, Myatt's Cinquefolia 271
Strawberry, cultivation of the 26
Style in laying out grounds 394
Tall-flowering lobelias, to propagate 280
The Nottingham cup for twelve dissimilar blooms 219
Thuja articulata glauca, siense nana 14
Tomato, the 317
To our readers 408
Tree pæonies, Souvenir de T. A. Downing, Souvenir de Madame Knorr, Charles Rogier 148
Tropæolum Triomphe de Gand 182
Tulip bulbs, vitality of 246
Tulip, purity in the 215
Tulips, Belvoir Rose and Lady Clifton, 29; Kate Connor, 59, 60, 88, 241; Dickson's Duke of Devonsshire 317
list of a few seen in the neighbourhood of Nottingham, during the bloom of 1852 4
not much known in the midlands 371
of 1853 229
Tulip seed, on sowing 67, 334
Villa platforms 396
Village horticultural societies 341
Vine, Larmes de Notre Dame 375
Vinca major elegantissima 14
Violets, Neapolitan and Russian 174
Window gardening 175
Winter bedding plants 212
Winton Parke's steel digging fork 385
Yuccas, hardy 277

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THE

MIDLAND FLORIST,

AND

SUBURBAN HORTICULTURIST.

CONDUCTED BY

JOHN FREDERICK WOOD, F.H.S.

VOL. VIII.

JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1854.

"To study culture, and with artful toil,
To meliorate and tame the stubborn soil;
To give dissimilar, yet fruitful lands,
The grain, or herb, or plant that each demands;
To cherish virtue in an humble state,
And share the joys your bounty may create;
To mark the matchless workings of the power
That shuts within its seed the future flower;
Bids these in form of elegance excel,
In colour these, and those delight the smell;
Sends nature forth, the daughter of the skies,
To dance on earth, and charm all human eyes;
To teach the canvass innocent deceit,
Or lay the landscape on the snowy sheet.—
These, these are arts pursued without a crime,
That leave no stain upon the wing of time."

COWPER.

LONDON:

SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, & CO., STATIONERS' HALL COURT.

1854.

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THE

MIDLAND FLORIST.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ON SEEDLING POTATOES.

JUDGING from the general character of your magazine, and knowing the interest you take in every advance in the science of floriculture, I presume that the information I am desirous of making known through your pages will be acceptable. Although not on one of the gayest of flowers, it is on that kind of *flour* on which much attention has been bestowed, and much derservedly written—though in many cases without much purpose—a flour equally important to the peasant and the prince—I mean the *floury* potato.

In the autumn of 1849, or spring of 1850, a friend of mine, a very spirited amateur horticulturist, Mr. M. L. Simpson, of the Angel Hotel, Whitby, asking if something could not be done, by raising potatoes of a hardier character, to avert the dire calamity which threatened to sweep off all our fine old floury

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sorts, I said, "Yes, Sir; and if you have no objection, I will enter into a speculation with you, as you have plenty of ground in your farm, I will undertake to manage, if you will find labour and ground, for the obtaining of something good from seed." "Agreed," was the reply of my friend, so to work we went, and in the spring of 1850, having obtained a quantity of young plants from seed, I prepared a warm border, in which I planted them for a time. Early in the month of June, the ground was prepared, into which I planted fifteen hundred seedlings. These grew generally well, some so amazingly that we had potatoes from them two or three inches long, some were so prolific that they had hundreds of small tubers at a root, and others had plenty of top and fibre, but were almost devoid of tubers. From the fifteen hundred planted, we retained just a thousand. These were very carefully kept separate, until the spring of 1851, when they were all planted, a stick dividing each lot. At length they all were up, and came into flower, a more interesting sight than which could scarcely be looked at, especially by one who is wont to observe the infinite variety which the God of nature gives to every distinct individual. Here were some from three to four feet high, whilst others did not attain more than the same number of inches. The flowers were equally varied in colour; there were every shade and tint, from white to deep purple. The most striking dissimilarity in the shape and colour of the leaf was observable.

The lifting time arrived, and the second selection and rejection were made. One-half were thrown aside, and five hundred were carefully stored for the winter, those possessing the short stiff top, with nice-looking tubers. Here they lay till the spring of 1852, when the whole were again carefully committed to the ground, each lot being divided as before.

They now covered a large extent of ground, and from the varied tints of green waving in the breeze, became an attraction to those who passed, wondering

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what would be the result. Autumn again arrived, and something further must be done. The whole five hundred sorts were taken up, and the tops carefully laid down by every lot to which they belonged, that a proper memorandum or note might be made of those again to be elected, a memorandum book and numbers having been provided. Just one hundred were selected. These we classified, first into early short-tops, next into mediums or garden varieties, and lastly strong-topped field, all possessing more or less of the following qualities:—Prolific, smart, well-shaped, with very little depression in the eyes. Thirty-five were referred to the first class, fifty to the second, and fifteen to the last; the other four hundred were rejected. And now came another storing time. The hundred chosen ones, numbered and entered, were stored in a long ridge, each lot separated by sods. Unfortunately, the winter being so excessively wet, and the situation not the best that might have been made choice of, a great part of some of the lots perished. A portion, however, of all the varieties were forthcoming at planting time, 1853. These were placed side by side in the field, with several of the most approved varieties of the kidney potato now in cultivation. Great care was taken to keep them free from weeds, and to have them furrowed up at the proper time, the benefit of which was very apparent in their fine healthy growth. Here it may be remarked, that it was very pleasing to find that those who could not at first see the utility of such a speculation, and who rather objected to than approved of the enterprize, were forced to admit that as a whole they surpassed their neighbours of the same class, for be it known the whole are kidney potatoes. Autumn again arrived, and what was to be done? some of the lots had increased to two, three, or more bushels. At first, in 1850, out of fifteen hundred we threw away five hundred; in 1851, out of a thousand, we only retained five hundred; in 1852, out of five hundred, we selected but one hundred. What was now to be done? all were

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so promising, so nice-looking, so prolific, and so like what they were the preceding year, that we could not think of putting any aside; but still there remained another test to be made, and that with respect to quality, for although we had got them early, dwarf, prolific, and beautiful, we wanted them floury and well-flavoured also. In order to prove them in this respect, of course we had to cook a sample of each sort, and the following are some of the notes placed opposite the numbers:—Good flavour—floury, fine—floury, good flavour—floury, XX—floury, very fine flavour—fine flavour, floury, XXX—and so on.

I am afraid that in this account there will be little that is interesting to some, and much apparent repetition to others, still I trust that to a few at least it will be interesting to know that something is being done in the way of an attempt to improve so valuable a root as the potato; but may I not venture to believe that on the reading of this paper, the hopes of a few will be so raised as to look for something at no very distant period worthy of public notice?

It is my intention, during the season of 1854, all well, to send samples of some of the best, for your opinion, which I hope you will have no objection to give for the benefit of all.

WILLIAM WILLISON.

Rose Nursery, Whitby, Dec. 14th, 1853.

ON THE PINK.

BY ALPHA.

It was with much pleasure I perused, in your work, the late articles on the pink, imparting valuable suggestions for further developing its beauties; so much so, that I now really begin to think my charming favourite is in the ascendant. The only apparent reason for its slow progress in some parts is, I think, sufficiently accounted for by the diversified tastes known to exist in different districts.

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One plan in particular, excellent for its simplicity, has been suggested by your correspondent, H. S. M., at page 242, of last year's volume; and what gives it an additional recommendation, is the fact that it can be easily carried out. If different localities cannot at once all agree to an universal standard for this flower, let us by all means give our fullest support to the proposition which seems to approximate the nearest to general requirements, as well as combining an equalising tendency; and as no dissentients have appeared, or fresh plan been announced, I suppose, in common parlance, we may consider the "original motion" carried *nem. con.* Let us, therefore, decide to commence another season with having at our different pink exhibitions, classes for flowers having the white margin, as well as for those possessing the solid edge. I will also suggest the addition of two extra classes,—one for rose, or rose lilac, the other for dark brown, or maroon-laced. I rather think the latter has already found some advocates at a few of the northern provincial shows. I should like to see it generally adopted; it certainly would remove much of the difficulty which judges have often experienced in not being able to class the flowers satisfactorily.

Do not let us have it asserted in these progressive times, when our floricultural movements are so eminently characterized by their rapid onward progress, that the pink is yet in the back ground; for I am clearly of opinion, that a far greater size, combined with other essential points, is yet attainable by careful hybridization; and I doubt not that it can, and will shortly, in this respect, be found on a par with the carnation. I therefore evoke the aid of the numerous well known successful workers in this department, to endeavour to realize these anticipated results, and place her on a level with her more aristocratic neighbour, the carnation.

The tulip, carnation, picotee, and dahlia appear to have had their properties universally recognized by

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all classes. I trust therefore that the beautiful *Dianthus plumarius* will not long remain an isolated subject, as regards its standard points; but that the practical working of improved arrangements will speedily dispel the differences which have long, much too long, shadowed around it.

RHODODENDRONS.

We really do not envy the floral taste of those with whom rhododendrons are not favourites, and especially if they can grow them; for, with a beautiful habit, evergreen, hardy, abundantly prolific in flowers, and of astonishing diversity of colour, from intense crimson and purple to pure white, these fine shrubs are the most valuable which we possess. Public curiosity was aroused some few years ago, by the wonderful character for beauty which was given to some twenty or thirty varieties introduced from Sikkim Himalaya, by Dr. Hooker. After a time, the expectations formed of them were considerably lowered by two of the sorts, namely, R. Dalhousæ and R. argentum, proving too tender for our climate, and much disappointment was consequently felt. We are glad, however, to find that there are some splendid sorts which will be found not only perfectly hardy, but at the same time immense acquisitions. We do not look so much at their intrinsic merits, but we are dreaming of some splendid hybrids, which must result from crossing our own varieties with these most magnificent sorts. And few plants offer such facilities for the operation; the merest tyro who understands the formation of the reproductive organs of a plant, can carry out the system. It need not be left to the bee, *busy* as he may be, to inoculate, or for chance to be the parent of a splendid hybrid. In the case of these, as with the lilies, which we sometimes talk about, there is so great a field for experiment, and such an abundant reward for care

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and patience. We must tell of a few of these really splendid shrubs. Our readers will thus see what they should inquire for.

R. Fulgens.—Now this is really a beauty, its mode of growth is good; some are straggling, it is close, and has good foliage. The flowers are bright crimson, and what makes them look "brighter still," is their glossy appearance; in fact, they appear as though glazed or varnished. This is a sweet variety or species, as the case may be.

R. Wrightii.—This is of wholly different character, the flower being rich yellow, and delightfully spotted with bronzy red. The foliage is extremely handsome.

R. Hodgsonii.—The flowers are rose colour, but this fine species is chiefly remarkable for its splendid foliage, which is amazingly large.

R. Falconerii.—This, in its native country, forms quite a tree, with very large and striking foliage. It differs from the preceding varieties in having pure white flowers.

R. Barbatum is another of treelike habit, bearing fine globular heads of crimson flowers.

R. Campylocarpum.—A very nice variety, not reaching so high as the previous named sorts. The blooms, which are produced in great profusion, are sulphur-coloured. This, with its dense habit and pretty foliage, will make it a great favourite.

SUCCESSFUL FANCY DAHLIAS, IN 1853.

ACCORDING to promise, I send you a list of fancy dahlias, which I hope will prove useful to your readers. As they are comparatively a new class, they cannot be expected to have attained the same degree of perfection as the plain coloured varieties; but I have seen a few which come pretty near the standard, and, in my opinion, the time is very near when we shall have them equally as fine as those of the older class, though I do not think they will ever be the means of throwing them out of cultivation. Of the varieties sent out in 1853, the Duchess of Kent, Wonderful, Attraction, Reine des Fleurs, and unanimity are the best; Mrs. James, Zebra, and Harlequin, show themselves but very little; while Motley, Miss Fanny Moriers, Miss Matthews, and Gipsy do not make their appearance.

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NAME AND RAISER.	When let out.	Mr. Robinson's Pan, at the Surrey.	J. Edwards, Esq.'s Pan, at the Surrey.	Mr. Turner's Pan. at the Surrey.	Mr. Keynes's Pan, at the Surrey.	Messrs. Dickson's Pan, at Edinburgh.	Mr. Handyside's Pan, at Edinburgh.	Mr. Keynes's Pan, at Brighton.	Mr. Turner's Pan, at Brighton.	Mr. Sealy's Pan, at Brighton.	J. Edwards, Esq.'s Pan, at Brighton.	Mr Shepherd's Pan, at Brighton.	TOTAL.
Gloire de Kaine (Cailloux	1852	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Mrs. Hansard (Union	1851	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	1	1	8
Elizabeth (Proctor)	1850	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	7
Laura Lavington (Keynes)	1852	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	7
Miss Compton (Liddiard)	1850	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	7
Empr. de Maroc (Huidoux)	1848	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	6
Flora M'Ivor (Keynes) ..	1852	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	1	6
Phaeton (Salter) ..	1851	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	6
Kossuth (Drummond	1852	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	5
Mrs. Willis	1851	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	5
Princess Charlotte (Salter)	1851	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	5
Wonderful (Keynes)	1853	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	5
Duchess of Kent (Knight)	1853	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4
Triumphant (Keynes	1852	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	4
Lady Grenville (Bragg) ..	1850	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	4
Spectabilis (Salter)	1852	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	4
Attraction (Jeffrey)	1853	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	3
Claudia (Lochner)	1853	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	3
Rachel (Gains)....	1851	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
Miss Ward (Turner)	1852	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	3
Reine des Belges ..	1852	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Reine des Fleurs ..	1853	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3
Unanimity (Edwards	1853	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	3
Cricket (Dodds) ..	1852	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Kingfisher (Turner)	1851	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Mrs. Wells	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2
Mrs. James (Rawlings) ..	1853	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Princes Helena (Turner)	1850	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Rainbow (Keynes)	1849	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Zebra (Keynes) ..	1853	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
Admiration (Brimmer) ..	1852	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Arc-en-ceil	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Belle de Nuggent (Mea) ..	1848	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Claude (Gains)....	1852	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Elegantissima	1851	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Forget-me-not	....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Floral Beauty (Whale) ..	1850	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Flowr. of the Day (Harrison	1852	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Gloire de Vienne ..	....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Highland Chief (Keynes)	1850	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Harlequin (Keynes)	1853	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Jenny Lind (Girling)	1848	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Jeanette (Fairvel)	1850	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1

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NAME AND RAISER.	When let out.	Mr. Robinson's Pan, at the Surrey.	J. Edwards, Esq.'s Pan, at the Surrey.	Mr. Turner's Pan, at the Surrey.	Mr. Keynes's Pan, at the Surrey	Messrs. Dickson's Pan, at Edinburgh.	Mr. Handyside's Pan, at Edinburgh.	Mr. Keynes's Pan, at Brighton.	Mr. Turner's Pan, at Brighton.	Mr. Scaly's Pan, at Brighton.	J. Edwards, Esq.'s Pan, at Brighton.	Mr. Shepherd's Pan, at Brighton.	TOTAL.
Keepsake (Barnes)	1849	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
La Peon (Tassart)	1852	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Miss Jane(Howard)	1849	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Miss Blackmore (Dodds)	1849	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Mrs. Murry (Union)	1852	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Maid of Lodi.....	....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Nancy (Keynes) ..	1852	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Reine Pomaire	....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rembrandt(Deknuff	1852	..	..	..	..	..	.	1	..	..	..	..	1
Striata (Batteur) ..	1849	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Topsy.....	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Uncle Tom	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Saracen (Ansell) ..	1851	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

NEW DAHLIAS, LET OUT IN 1853.

Prizes were offered at Brighton and Edinburgh. The following is the result:—

NAME AND RAISER.	Mr. Mitchell's Pan, at Edinburgh.	Mr. Bigge's Pan, at Edinburgh.	Mr. Reid's Pan, at Edinburgh.	Mr. Proctor's Pan, at Brighton.	Mr. Robinson's Pan, at Brighton.	Mr. White's Pan, at Brighton.	TOTAL.
Plantagenet (Turner)	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Bob (Drummond)	1	1	1	..	1	1	5
Lilac King (Rawlings)	1	1	1	1	..	..	4
Miss Caroline (Brittle)	1	1	1	..	1	..	4
Sir J. Franklin (Turner)	..	1	1	1	..	..	3
Amazon (Holmes)	..	1	..	..	1	1	3
Beauty of the Grove (Burgess)	..	..	..	1	1	1	3
Wonderful (Keynes).....	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Queen Victoria (Wheeler)	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Exquisite (Rawlings).....	..	..	..	1	..	.	1
Lord Byron (Pope)	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Duchess of Kent (Knight)	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Lord Nelson (Noakes)	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Robert Bruce	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Grand Duke (Turner)	1	..	..	..	..	..	1

W. S. M. M.

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A CHAPTER ON FRUITS.

VERY considerable additions have been made to our lists of fruit of all sorts, and we have, especially in strawberries, some new ones of merit, yet none to surpass that really splendid variety the *British Queen*. This sort is now tolerably well known throughout the country, not only for its large size, but also for its most excellent flavour. *Eleanor*, another of Mr. Myatt's varieties, is much handsomer than the preceding, and very large, but then it wants the sugary flavour of the Queen. We have heard that Mr. Doubleday, of Epping, has, this season, grown this variety eight inches in circumference, a monstrous size truly, and only attained by high cultivation. *Black Prince*, called by some *Cuthill's*, is a high-coloured sort, very excellent for preserving. We believe it is a Scotch variety, but introduced into the south by Mr. C. *Cole's Prolific* is said to beat Kean's Seedling, from which it was originated. Some of our readers may perhaps doubt its superseding that old and favourite variety, but it is reported by competent judges to be not only larger, but earlier, and of first-rate flavour. *Wilmot's Prince Arthur* was raised by the same party who, years ago, originated a large flavourless sort, called Superb. This is one of the same family, and unfortunately quality is sacrificed to size. Mr. Rivers, a good authority in these matters, characterizes it "*a large abomination.*"

In raspberries, the *Fillbasket* has retained its pre-eminence for size and flavour; whilst as a red fruit, *Walker's Dulcis* is first-rate. *Belle de Fontenay* has not answered our expectations. It is large, but acid. Still we must give it another season's trial, before we can fairly decide on its merits. It appears that there is another raspberry called *Magnum Bonum*, a red one, besides Scalter's, which is yellow. The red is supposed to be the same as the Beehive. The yellow is very prolific, and of good flavour, but it roots all

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over the garden, and there appears hardly such a thing as keeping it within bounds.

The varieties of plums are now getting exceedingly numerous. *Washington*, a very large round yellow plum, we have fruited in good style this season, on pyramids; and the kitchen plum, *Diamond*, though coarse, is still of fine acid flavour, and our little trees were, this season, covered with fruit. Anyone growing it otherwise than for cooking, will be disappointed. *Pond's Seedling* has also been very fine, very large, and handsome, but, like the preceding, is more adapted for market and cooking purposes than the dessert. The *Orange Plum* we entertain a high opinion of, not only for the beauty of its fruit, which is bright yellow, but also for its remarkably pretty habit of growth, forming, as it does, a most excellent pyramid. We have planted a row out for bearing, and they are by far the handsomest trees in our pyramid orchard. *Autumn Compote*, a very likely variety. Ours fruited for the first time this season. it is a handsome variety, and will doubtless prove a very profitable sort. It is late and large.

In currants there are a few new things, deserving notice, and we are glad to find a new white variety has been introduced from the Continent. It is named *Blanc Transparent*, and is rather yellower in colour than the White Dutch. It bears well, and the berries are fine. We have fruited a new red one, this season, from grafted plants. It is called *La Fertile*, from its amazingly prolific character. It will doubtless be an acquisition. There are also two other Continental varieties, *La Versaillaise* and *La Hative*, both red, and much recommended, but we have not fruited them.

In apples we have not met with any great novelties, during the year. We have again proved *Manning-ton Pearmain* to deserve all that has been said about it. The *Melon Apple*, from America, is fine, and of good flavour, and may be reported as an addition. So may the *Spring Ribstone Pippin*, which is at its

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best when most other apples are gone past, combining almost every good quality.

As for pears, their name is legion, and we suspect that, like roses, the catalogues require cutting down one-half. Amongst the most noticeable novelties, and particularly to those who grow for size, is *Triomphe de Jodoigne*, a melting pear of very excellent quality, ripe in December. *Onondaga*, or *Swan's Orange*, we have seen highly spoken of in American periodicals, but as it required proving in England, till that was done, little notice was taken of it. It is now ascertained to be not only very hardy, but also very large, good, and prolific. Independent of the preceding, there is a monstrous pear, just the thing for those who grow for size. It is also a decent dessert sort, and very hardy. It is *Beurré Tuerlinckk*, one of those almost unpronouncable names which we now so often meet with.

In apricots, are several novelties worth trying. For instance, *St. Ambroise*, large, handsome, and early; and *Viard*, large, of fine flavour, and hardy. By the by, will our readers tell us of their experience in growing apricots on a northern aspect, to render them less excitable, and thus, by retarding the blossoms, escape frost? *Tardive d'Orleans*, fine, excellent, and late, ripening a fortnight later than most others.

To close this chapter, we will refer to a few grapes, suitable for walls and for the vinery. Amongst hardy sorts are, *Purple Fontainbleau*, which we have noticed on a former occasion. It is very hardy, sweet, and prolific. *Pitmanston White Cluster*, very hardy and excellent. *Early Malingré* is one of the earliest, and is a new Continental variety. For vineries, the *Syrian* is highly recommended by Mr. Rivers, of Sawbridgeworth, as a splendid grape, with enormous bunches. Our continental neighbours certainly have most singular names for their fruits; for instance, the gentleman above-quoted states that he has a variety called *Muscat de Jesus!* obtained from

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France, some years ago, and that it has been grown by Mr. Fleming (of Trentham, we presume) to the enormous weight of six pounds! But then it requires a good deal of heat. We have a notion that at certain factories near our town, where there is a high temperature kept up, the warm air escaping through the ventilators might be made to circulate *a la Polmaise* in vineries attached to the buildings, where grapes in tubs and boxes, especially those sorts which require a deal of heat, might, we think, be grown in good style, and with but little expense.

ON TULIPS NOT MUCH KNOWN IN THE MIDLANDS.

THERE surely must be some mistake respecting the feathered strain of Rose Aglaia, as described in the list of "varieties not much known in the midlands." I have grown and seen many of that beautiful clean variety, but never found it exceed the average second row in height: indeed, it is more often found in the first row than otherwise. Of its general good properties I can say much, but it certainly is not a middle-row flower.

As to the Duke of Clarence and other tricolors, they are not such favourites in the south as your correspondent imagines; indeed, they are fast disappearing from the scene, a circumstance I much regret, as among them are some really good things. For instance, Milo, Lord Collingwood, Sultan, Gogay's Prince Edward, Sharp's Victory, Carlo Dolce with its numerous synonymes, Duke of Bedford, Earl Munster, Lady Collingwood, Vandyke, &c. These and many others are worth a place in every collection. Of the Duke of Clarence, it has been justly said by one of our best judges, "that you seldom see two blooms alike, or the same root bloom twice alike, yet 'tis well worth growing." Until the last few years, Lord Collingwood brought heavy sums, and so

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did the fine strain of Milo,—now they are seldom met with. Sharp's Victory is an acquisition to any collection, being a noble fourth-row flower, of good habit, coming into bloom with the earliest, and lingering till the latest. Your remarks on this variety, in the *Midland Florist*, for August last, applies to many others of this class also, "the outer petals are creamy, in other respects they are excellent flowers." Many of them are not, really, tricolours, though so classed. But if variety in the tulip is charming, then have tricolours an additional claim, seeing that they possess that qualification in a larger degree, and to ignore Milo or Lord Collingwood, on account of their beautiful amethyst beam, is an injustice. I am glad to find that a separate class has been opened, for showing tricolours, at one of the metropolitan societies. Is not this worthy of imitation?

N. WOLFE.

Hackney-road, London.

NOTES OF NEW TULIPS.

I HAVE sent you notes of new tulips, raised and broke by R. Headly, Esq., of Stapleford, near Cambridge. It is indeed a wonderful sight to view the mass of seedling tulips in the possession of this distinguished and enthusiastic raiser. I had the curiosity to measure his breeder beds, which were one hundred and twenty-seven yards in length, by four feet wide, and ten bulbs in each row. Among these were many newly broken flowers, not yet named.

On inquiring for some of the fine varieties that I saw in 1850, I found that some of my favourites had been destroyed; and it was by the employment of a private watchman, from the time of planting till I saw them in bloom, that his tulips had been preserved from damage. The following flowers, formerly described, I saw as fine as when I took notes of

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them, viz. Phœnix, Orion, Titian, Jason, Aurora, Regalia, Mary Headly, and Marshal Ney. Mr. H. had two beds of ninety rows each, nearly the whole of which were his own newly-broken and select seedlings, besides some out-beds, containing flowers not quite rectified. I hope these hurried notes will be of some interest to the readers of the *Midland Florist*.

GEORGE LIGHTBODY.

Falkirk, Dec. 14, 1853.

Calliope.—A fourth-row rose. Of great size, pure, of fine form, very strong stem, stout petals, with a heavy flame of remarkably deep rose colour.

Comet.—Second-row rose. Form perfect, very thick petals, pure bottom, with a broad beam of deep cherry, interspersed with black rays. Very slightly stained on the summit of the stamens.

Agamemnon.—Third-row bizarre. Good form, pure, petals thick, flamed and feathered with very dark brown. A certain show flower.

Demosthenes.—Fourth-row bizarre. Very large, deep yellow, fine form, pure, good substance of petal, with a broad and regular feather. Colour a close approximation to black.

Telemachus.—A very tall fourth-row byblœmen. Average strength of petal, pure, good form, feathered and flamed with light violet. A very distinct and attractive variety.

Lady Palmerston.—Third-row rose. A large flower, of fine shape, strong petals, pure, with a heavy flame of dark crimson, and stripes of bright pink colour.

Gem.—Second-row rose. Very appropriately named. One of the finest feathered roses that can be imagined, possessing all the requisite properties to constitute a first-class show flower; feathered in a very regular manner with bright crimson.

Menelaus.—Third-row byblœmen. Much like Violet Alexander, only the petals are stouter.

Pactolus.—Second-row bizarre. Fine form, pure, good substance, with a flame of purple and dark brown. Marked in the way of Holmes's King.

Rose Euterpe.—Second-row. The very perfection of form, quite pure, petals of great substance, marked with broad flame and feather of bright crimson.

Lucifer.—Third-row bizarre. Rather a startling name to recognize a very extraordinary fine flower by. This is a wonderful and attractive flower, being of the finest yellow, marked with a flame of black and crimsom, with a very regular black feather. The flower is of shining purity, and

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of great substance of petal. In my opinion, one of the best and most select bizarres.

Beatrice.—Second-row byblœmen, a rose when young. A flower of great size, of fine form, and great substance, perfectly pure, marked with a medium black feather and heavy flame of intense purple.

Lord Godolphin.—Fourth-row bizarre. Of very attractive appearance, beautifully marked with a broad flame of dark crimson, and a narrow feather; cup short, strong petals, pure, yellow deep. The form would have been perfection, but for the slight defect of the outer petals being a very little detached from the inner. This may have been occasioned by the cold east winds of last spring.

Sarah Headly.—A noble fourth-row rose. Regularly feathered with deep rose colour, quite pure, shining white, form fine. The petals are of such extraordinary thickness that a very warm season will be needful to bloom this fine rose in perfection. I did not see it fully expanded.

Hermione.—Second-row rose. Of the finest form, pure, petals strong, with feather and flame of dark cherry.

Circe.—First-row rose. A very perfect and beautiful flower, marked with feather and flame of bright rose colour. An acquisition to the most select bed.

Captain Ficklin.—A third-row and first-class bizarre. Of the finest form, with a strong stem, intense yellow, very pure, and great thickness of petal, with a regular feather and flame of dark colour, approaching to black.

Queen.—Third-row bizarre. Good form, stout petals, pure, feathered and flamed with red.

Apollo.—Third-row bizarre. Of large size, with dark feather and broad flame of dark crimson, shape fine, pure, and stout petals.

Minos.—Second-row bizarre. Of extra fine form, deep yellow, perfectly pure, marked with a broad flame of deep purple and a narrow black feather. A first-rate show flower.

Endymion.—First-row byblœmen. Of the finest form, with a regular and beautiful narrow feather of dark purple; substance and purity all that can be desired, white transparent.

Phaeton.—A tall fourth-row bizarre. Quite pure, yellow very dense, marked with broad feather of dark brown, form what would be esteemed first-rate, were it detached from the perfect shapes around it.

Sarpedon.—Second-row byblœmen. A very striking variety, of fine form, great substance of petal, pure, marked with intense purple feather and flame.

Rose Ellen.—Third-row. A perfect copy of the finest strain of Heroine, only twice the size, when I saw it.

Regina.—A first-row rose, of the most startling quality, the white being so transparent, marking very regular, with a feather and beam of bright scarlet; cup short, stout petals,

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base or shoulder very broad. The upper part of the petals curve inwards, and a warm season will be required to expand the flower.

Adonis.—Second or third-row byblœmen. Short cup and broad base, the summit of the petals gently rounded, as if they had been cut in the most artistic manner, and coming up to the standard so long since promulgated by Mr. Glenny. Substance of petal good, quite pure, with a medium feather of very dark purple, nearly black, and a narrow beam running up the centre of each petal. In my opinion, one of the most perfect specimens of a feathered tulip that I have ever seen.

I saw what was said to be the same flower in the flamed state, but it was deeper in the cup, and marked with a broad black feather and heavy flame of deep purple and black. In this state, it is one of the most gorgeous byblœmens I have ever seen; but I am sceptical as to this being broken from the same breeder, being so different in shape.

Proserpine.—Second-row byblœmen. Of extra size, marked with a broad and very regular feather of shining black, bottom and stamens pure, with broad base; anthers very bold, and great substance of petal. One of the very finest that has ever been raised.

In confirmation of the accuracy of the above description, Proserpine was shown at the exhibition of the London Amateur Society,—the first society in the empire,—where from fifty to sixty stands of the very finest and well grown tulips I ever had the pleasure of seeing were exhibited, and the judges, Messrs. I. T. Willmer, sen., Henry Goldham, and R. I. Lawrence (names that will carry weight), decided that it was the best byblœmen in the exhibition.

PROPAGATION.

No. I.

THE time is now gone past for keeping some kind of secrets. Years ago, certain parties used to come to Mr. Pearson's nursery, at Chilwell, to bud such

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things as plums, apples, cherries, &c. and it was an invariable rule, if any customer came into the grounds, for these men to leave off, and whet their knives, or do any trifling job, while the intruder was nigh, in order that he might not see how this very wonderful affair was managed. How different is it now. Most people who are fond of a garden can bud, and we have seen budding done by ladies which has been eminently successful.

As a new feature, to start the new year with, we will commence a series of short articles on propagation, in our usual homely gossiping style. If they afford information, we shall be glad; and if they induce some to try their skill, we are sure it will increase the delight which our friends have in their gardens. Before we have done, if we live long enough, we shall thus treat of many things; and we hope, that when our experience does not exactly tally with that of readers who know something about the matter, they will, for our own sakes, as well as *pro bono publico*, give us their ideas on the subject. We have mentioned a few Sikkim rhododendrons, and as the tribe generally is easy of cultivation, we may just say a little about it. The nurseries near Woking, in the vicinity of Chobham, are famous for these plants, the peaty, boggy soil being peculiarly suitable for them; but it must be by no means inferred from this that soil of that description is absolutely necessary. A fibrous, hazel loam, with a wet subsoil, will do them famously, and in this they will thrive and bloom amazingly.

Rhododendrons are propagated in a variety of ways. They graft very readily, either by the common side or whip grafting, or by cutting the stock like a wedge, slitting the scion, and placing it astraddle, to use a vulgarism, but we do not know a better term to convey our meaning. They will do in the open ground thus treated; but it is safest to have the stocks to be grafted in pots, which, when the operation is performed, should be placed in a cold, close,

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and dampish frame, where the grafts will soon take. These plants will also bud freely. This may be done the latter part of the summer, but we prefer grafting. In fact, by this latter mode, fine standards of the high-coloured and scarce varieties may be obtained, by using the Catawbiense, or Maximum, both of which we like better than Ponticum, for a stock. They root very freely by layers. The shoots should be of the previous year's growth, and may be laid down in March. Tonguing them facilitates their rooting. But we have seen immense quantities of R. ponticum raised by merely heaping soil on the shoots which lay on the ground, and placing on that large slabs of stone, to keep all fast. The best way of all to raise quantities, and also to originate fresh varieties, is to sow the seed. This may be obtained any time during the winter, the hard woody capsules may be gathered, in which will be found abundance of chafflike seeds. Procure a flat box, half fill it with moss, or sphagnum, and place on the top some peat, or, in the absence of this, decayed leaves, with a profuse addition of silver sand, pressed firmly down, and watered overnight. Next morning, scatter the seed thickly over the surface, press it down on the soil, cover with a small quantity of nice, well washed green moss, and place in a frame, in a shady situation. The seed will quickly vegetate, and the moss may be gradually withdrawn as the tender seedlings gather strength, but shade and moisture is indispensable. The latter is attained in a great measure by the moss below the soil, but by keeping a damp atmosphere round them in the frame, watering, which, however carefully performed, is liable to wash up the tender seedlings, may be nearly dispensed with. In this way we have successfully raised many seedlings, and we know of no better plan. When the young plants are large enough to bear handling, they may be pricked out in pans, prepared in the same way, adopting a similar management till they are large enough to be planted out on "nurse beds,"

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choosing a moist and shady situation. Patience is now only required till they get a size larger, when they may be planted still further apart, and the amateur will soon be rewarded with nice stocky plants, with the chance of originating something which may be a beat on existing varieties, and this, we imagine, would amply reward him for all his trouble.

ON THE SYNONYMES OF TULIPS.

From the great disappointments I have met with on receiving old flowers under new names, I feel anxious, as far as possible, not only to avoid a repetition of the same deception, but to endeavour to prevent my brother florists from falling into the same error.

In the *Midland Florist* for August last, at page 231, in speaking of Delaforce's Earl Douglas, you observe, "a friend says the true name is Bartlett's Rufus," and you ask some of your southern friends to enlighten you on the subject. I cannot satisfy you on this point, but will tell you what occurred to me ten years ago, which will in some way strengthen your friend's opinion. In 1842, I commenced growing tulips, and the greater part of my first stock I obtained from Mr. Milner, of Larkhall-lane, Clapham. Amongst these was a bulb which should have been Rosa Blanca, but on flowering, it turned out to be what I thought a tolerably good bizarre, and being a new grower, I was desirous of getting its proper name. To do this, I asked the opinion of those who saw the flower, and on reference to my tulip book for 1843, I find the remarks to this flower are, "Mr. May says it is Rufus, Mr. Stockwell says it is Darius, and Mr. Dickson says it is Darius, or Delaforce's Earl Douglas." The persons here referred to were all tulip growers residing in the neighbourhood of London, and well qualified to give an opinion as to a

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particular variety, so that the flower appears to have three aliases, Rufus, Darius, and Earl Douglas.

At the same page, you mention Foreman's Evelyn, feathered rose. Is this an old friend with a new name? I have bought a flower, this season, under the name of Evelyn, or Haigh's Lady Grey. Is this synonymous with Foreman's Evelyn?

Your correspondent, C. C., at page 317, in the October number, seems rather desirous of increasing these aliases, than diminishing them. He says that Dickson's Duke of Devonshire is the only true and legitimate sort; and names Milner's Duke of Devonshire, amongst others, as being dissimilar. I think C. C. cannot have grown Milner's strain, or he would not have said this. I had a bulb from Mr. Milner, in 1842, I have now grown it nine years, and in no one instance do I recollect it "melting or flushing;" on the contrary, I have frequently taken up petals that had fallen, and lain on the bed for days, and they still retained the same distinctness of marking and purity as when growing. In 1841 and 42, I saw both Milner's and Dickson's strains growing on the same bed, and although at that time I was incapable of deciding for myself, I heard several others, and good judges too, say there was no difference. From 1842 until the national tulip show, at Derby, in 1851, I did not see a bloom of the duke, except those on my own bed. There were several blooms of the duke at this show, and I called the attention of one of the judges, as well as another amateur from the neighbourhood of London, to the flowers I had taken, and asked whether they were still considered to be different. The answer was, "that has been decided long ago,—they are the same." The same year, I sent a bulb to Mr. Lightbody, of Falkirk. He returned it in the autumn of 1852, and with it a bulb of Dickson's strain, saying there was no difference. Last season, I grew this bulb in my bed, with several of Milner's strain, and

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I could see no difference. I have sold and exchanged many bulbs of Milner's strain (more than forty in the last three years), and in no one instance have I had a complaint. Why then make a distinction where there is no difference? Why not call it Duke of Devonshire, without either Dickson's or Milner's name to it? for neither of these gentlemen are entitled, as it is well known that it was raised by the the late Mr. Clark, of Croyden, whose breeders got into many person's hands, and were broken by them.

Polyphemus, raised by the same gentleman, has been broken by many; but all who break it do not attach their names to it,—it is still Polyphemus.

R. O.

CEMETERY PLANTS.

Now that grave yards are closed in the metropolis, as well as in most of the densely populated provincial towns, may I crave space to say a few words about cemeteries and the style of planting them? They are usually encircled by a belt of trees, and interspersed with other trees of different character, such as the weeping willow, weeping ash, weeping elm, &c.; and in some, parties are allowed to insert any tree or shrub at the head of a deceased relative's grave, according as it may suit the fancy or the pocket, without reference to the room it may occupy as it grows. In some cemeteries in which I have walked, whilst musing on the uncertainty of life, I have been startled by the incongruity of the assembled plants. In one place there has been a scrubby spruce fir, another has had a scarlet-flowering currant; in another place a broom has taken hold, and throws its long and straggling branches over an aucuba japonica, which heads the next grave, and which it nearly smothers. Then again there will be a common laurel,

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or a rose tree; in fact, over the graves of those who cannot afford a stone, there is an heterogenous assemblage of plants.

Now I certainly think there should be some limit to this indiscriminate planting; for if a tree is allowed at all, it should be evergreen, pyramidal, and of close habit, so that the plant of one survivor may not occupy the space at the head of the grave which belongs to the members of another family. This might easily be done, by allowing only such trees as those alluded to above to be planted, and making it indispensable, when they exceed their proper limits, that they should be pruned in, or clipped. There are so many trees and shrubs of this description, that relatives would have to choose from, that it would not at all appear that their liberty of selection was shackled. I will enumerate a few of this character, which I hope will prove of service in aiding the living to select those trees as a memento which would not be likely to be soon removed, which must infallibly be the case, if brooms, double gorse, &c. are planted, and which, if left to themselves, would soon give that part of the grounds the appearance of a foxcover. Some of the most suitable would be the different varieties of yew trees. There is the gold-striped yew, and the silver-striped also, which would be many, many years before they got too large. Then there is the Irish yew, which makes a beautiful green pyramid, and which is certainly most appropriate; and the common sort, that may be clipped into any form. In fact, it might be kept the size and form of a common tombstone, affording a melancholy pleasure to a son or husband, to keep it in proper trim. There is the cypress, a beautiful upright featherlike evergreen, whose very name suggests sorrow and mourning; also the junipers, and in this family there is great choice,—some being upright, whilst others have pendent branches. Amongst the latter, are Juniperus recurva, Juniperus oblonga pendula, &c.; whilst most interesting trees of an

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opposite character will be found amongst the Irish, Swedish, Chinese, and Virginian junipers, with some others; and when it is wished to cover the surface of the grave with a verdant carpet of foliage, such plants as Juniperus tamariscifolia, prostrata, alpina, and squamata, would be very suitable. To these might be added the tree box, and others of the same tribe, various upright heaths, &c. Thus it will be seen that a tree may be planted which will not only be void of the objections I have above alluded to, but will actually be ornamental and appropriate.

M. S. H.

A NICE WAY OF BUDDING ROSES IN POTS.

Owing to the observations made in your last number, relative to the various stocks on which roses grow the best, I am induced to give you a few remarks, derived from my own experience in this matter. I have grown for budding roses on, the boursault, called Amadis, which is itself a pretty crimson rose, and well adapted for a pillar, or for covering a veranda, independent of being *thornless*. I usually, about the latter end of September, take a quantity of shoots from a strong plant which grows over my veranda, and make them into cuttings, about eighteen inches long. They are about the thickness of a large goose-quill. I have some pots which hold nearly a quart, and these I well drain with potsherds, covering with a few lumps of charcoal. My compost consists of charred refuse (as sticks, turf, &c.), rotten leaves, sharp sand, and maiden yellow loam,—the latter in the proportion of one-half, to a fair mixture of the other ingredients. I place in the centre of each of these pots one of my Amadis cuttings, fill up with the compost, and fasten it well, leaving about twelve inches above the surface of the soil. The pots are then plunged in an east border, in a bed of

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pure sand, for the winter, and require no further care till the cuttings begin to grow, when I water them as they need it. When the buds start in the spring, I remove all but the top one, and as the soil suits, with careful watering, the stocks grow luxuriantly, and are soon in a fit state for budding, which operation I perform as soon as I have buds ready. To do this, I take the pot from its bed of sand, place it on a table, and insert the bud about six inches from the surface, tying with cotton. I then replace the pot in the hole from whence it was taken, taking care that the sand is well closed round it, and go through the same process with the whole of them. In about ten days, I can tell whether the buds have taken. If so, I stop the shoot at the top; that is to say, I cut off a quarter of its length. A week after, I reduce it one-half, and as the bud will now give symptoms of starting, I ease the bandage. In about a week after, I remove nearly all the shoot of the stock, allowing only a leaf or two to remain. The bud will now make rapid progress, and by this means I often flower them in autumn, especially such sorts as Geant des Batailles, Comte de Rambuteau, &c. These will make nice plants for bedding purposes the succeeding spring. You see, Mr. Editor, there is no conjuring about this. The stocks fill the pots with nice fibrous roots, and the rose has a nice smooth stem. I am not liable to prick my fingers whilst budding, and I assure you it is an amusement in which I take delight. I buy most of the new roses, and it is not from parsimony that I bud my own. My gardener could do it, but I do not think it is derogatory to my sex to have beds of flowers of my own creation, if I may so express myself; and from its simplicity, I hope that others of your readers may be induced to share such pleasure with your obedient servant,

MARGARITE.

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APRICOTS ON A NORTH WALL.—I have been induced to offer a few words on this subject, from the frequency of complaints regarding the uncertain nature of the apricot crop, more particularly in the southern parts of England. I need scarcely say that the apricot is deserving of some attention, not only for its excellence as a dessert fruit, but also on account of its qualities as a preserve, than which there is none finer or more beautiful. They are in much request for both purposes, at this place, and every attention has been paid to ensure, if possible, a crop. The trees have been lifted and replanted in suitable soil, and protected from spring frosts, but the success has been so unsatisfactory, that it was thought necessary to remove many of them, in order that something of a more profitable character might be grown instead. Having an impression that the apricot might be cultivated on the north side of a wall, I selected an old tree, on which, for three successive years, I had looked in vain for fruit, and planted it on a prepared border, on the north side of a wall; the result has been a good crop of fruit, well coloured, and of excellent quality. Lateness is the only difference between them and those on a south aspect, which I consider an advantage, rather than otherwise, more especially where dessert is required at all times. In situations where apricots are obtained from other aspects, trees might be advantageously planted on the north side of a wall, with the view of obtaining a successional crop. The advantages derived from having the trees on a north aspect are, that unseasonable earliness is prevented, and shading or syringing after a frost is unnecessary, previous to the sun shining upon the trees. I am also of opinion, that trees grown on a north wall will not, as is usual, die off, limb by limb, but in this I have not yet had sufficient experience. I am, however, so satisfied with my present success, that I intend removing all the apricot trees that are in this place to the north sides of the walls.—G. T., *Stansted, Sussex*, in *Gardeners' Chronicle.*

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REVIEWS.

THE GARDENER'S AND NATURALIST'S ALMANACK FOR THE YEAR 1854. By Joseph Harrison, Editor of the *Floricultural Cabinet*.

WITH the exception of a little alteration required in the list of nurserymen, we highly approve of this excellent almanack. It is replete with every information usually found in these useful periodicals. As we have up to this period (the 22nd), received no other, we are not enabled to judge of it by comparison; but if carefully selected lists of new plants, and abundant information on all work requiring to be done during each month in the year, is a recommendation, then assuredly the *Gardener's and Naturalist's Almanack* deserves to be recommended.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Will you have the kindness to inform me which is the best treatise on laying out pleasure grounds and flower gardens, with the scale given how to proceed, and the price of the book?

R. O.

[Our correspondent will find *Loudon's Suburban and Villa Gardener* extremely useful in this respect. We have also heard that there is one recently published by a Mr. Kemp, but we have not seen the work. If you will apply to any respectable bookseller, he will tell you the price.]

Will you kindly inform me where I can procure a few good single sweetwilliams, smooth on the edge, &c., and at what price?

S.

[We had a beautiful lot of dianthuses of this description, sent by Mr. Hunt, of Whykam, a gentleman who has paid great attention to this class of flowers. We have one in this neighbourhood, termed D. Edwardsii, the eye white, body-colour crimson, with a well-defined white margin. It forms large heads of flowers and is really very pretty.]

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Will you, or any of your correspondents give the names and colours of, say twelve heaths and epacrises, the handsomest and least tender? I have often thought how acceptable to your subscribers would be lists of plants suitable for making mixed greenhouses constantly gay, but have myself no claim to embolden me to ask more favours. Believe me, no one looks forward with more pleasure to your little journal than

L. W.

P.S.—I mean *real standard greenhouse plants*. You have already inserted many hints as to annuals, &c., for helping to make them gay. I have not passed over the list of heaths already given.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR JANUARY.

In the kitchen garden, large rhubarb roots and sea-kale may now be covered, in order to obtain blanched shoots. There are pots made for this purpose, but we have seen old tea chests used with success. Of course, they must be covered with dung, or, what is better, with oak leaves. Large rhubarb roots may also be placed in warm dark cellars, where they will produce an abundant crop of beautifully blanched stalks, with very little trouble. Mustard and cress should be sown in pans and boxes. Mint roots should be got up and potted; they will be found acceptable in spring. On dry soils, and in warm, sheltered situations, peas may be sown, but care must be taken that they are not carried away by mice. Nothing perhaps beats a figure of four trap, for their destruction is the only safe precaution. In pruning the bushes of small fruit, in the kitchen garden, it must be borne in mind that the black currant shoots must not be shortened; but when the trees get too thick of wood, the whole branch must be removed from the bottom. Gooseberries, and white and red currants are shortened. In pruning espaliers, we would cut the roots, instead of the tops. Who has not seen trees of this description pruned year after year, and each succeeding season throwing out such a forest of fruitless twigs, that the tree looks more like an osier or willow hedge than an apple tree. The reason, we have explained before. Give them then, we say, after thinning the branches, a good root-pruning, and live in hope.

Look to all wall trees, cut out thriftless wood, and lay in all the young wood possible, at regular distances; and if large enough and too luxuriant, "stop the supplies," by root-pruning them also.

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A strict watch should be kept on all soft-wooded plants, in pits and frames. Damp and a confined atmosphere are more destructive than slight frosts. Dead leaves must be carefully removed, and the surface-soil stirred, whilst an occasional fire may be made, at the same time ventilating, so as to get rid of foul air and dampness.

Where camellias are grown, attention must be given; for should the plants get droughted (the soil become too dry), the buds will drop off. This our correspondent, W. M., will at once perceive is the reason why the blooms have fallen from the plants in his drawing room.

Amateurs who bud their own roses, may now head back the shoot to within a few inches of the bud. Procure stocks for future operations. Pot manetti, boursault, or Victoria, for grafting, with cuttings of any new variety which may have been obtained this autumn.

In the florist's garden, hollyhocks should be looked to. Snails will worry them, when they have a chance. A few mats thrown over tulip beds, in severe frost, will not be labour thrown away. Carefully attend to carnations and picotees in frames. Let them have air enough, and never by any chance close the frames when the foliage is wet,—ruin is sure to follow, in the shape of white or black mildew. Turn over the beds intended for ranunculuses, and see that pinks and pansies are fast, and all right; late-planted ones are often raised by frosts.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

TULIP SHOW,

At the Botanic Gardens, Manchester, May 25, 1853.

1st Pan.—Duke of Devonshire, San Joe, Bienfait, Incomparable, Heroine, Mr. Lea, of Leigh, near Wigan 2nd. Duke of Devonshire, Pilot, Bienfait, Adelaide, Comte de Vergennes, and La Vandicken, Mr. Wm. Lea. 3rd. No names sent, Mr. Joseph Clegg.

On the Castle Green, Hereford.

RANUNCULUSES.

First Stand of Twelve Varieties.—Sophia, Gomes, St. Jerome, Wonder, Adolphus, Saladin, Coronation, Sabrina, Henrietta, Dido, Prefect, and Adela, Mr. Godsall, Hereford.

PINKS.

First Stand of Twelve Varieties.—George Glenny, Gem, Gaylad, Princess Royal, Criterion, Queen of Purples, Alpha, Young's XX, Lady Mildmay, King of Purples, Rosanna, and Alfred Morrison, Esq., Mr. Dickens, Peterstow.

First Stand of Six Varieties.—Lord John Russell, King of Purples, Hotspur, Sappho, Jenny Lind, and one unknown, Mr. Godsall, Hereford.

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At the Old Oak, Oak-street, Wolverhampton, August 9.

CARNATIONS.

Pan.—Schofield's Pet (scarlet bizarre), Gregory's Alfred (crimson bizarre), William IV. (scarlet flake), Beauty of Woodhouse (purple flake), Ariel (rose flake), G. Addis.

Best Single Bloom.—Admiral Curzon, G. Addis.

Scarlet Bizarres.
1 Prince of Wales, J. Tunley
2 Schofield's Pet, G. Addis
3 Gameboy, J. Tunley
4 Gameboy, J. Bullock

Crimson Bizarres.
1 Hero, J. Tunley
2 Duke of Bedford, J. Bullock

Scarlet Flakes.
1 William IV., J. Bullock
2 William IV., G. Addis
3 William IV., J. Tunley

Rose Flakes.
1 Lady Ely, G. Addis
2 Ariel, ditto
3 Bijsies, J. Tunley
4 Ariel, ditto

Purple Flakes.
1 Beauty of Woodhouse, J. Tunley
2 Ditto, ditto
3 William Penn, ditto

PICOTEES.

Red.
1 Merryweather's Miss Rosa, G. Addis
2 James II., J. Tunley
3 Duchess of Cambridge, ditto
4 Prince of Wales, G. Addis

Purple.
1 Portia, G. Addis
2 Lord Nelson, J. Tunley
3 Portia, G. Addis
4 Ditto, ditto

DAHLIAS.

First Twelve.—Duke of Wellington, Fearless, Louisa, Glong, Sir R. Peel, Bragg's Admiral, Mrs. Seldon, Beauty of Versailles, Marchioness of Cornwallis, Sir C. Napier, and Queen of Beauties, G. Addis.

First Six.—Duke of Wellington, Dazzle, Queen of Lilacs, unknown, Cobden, and Bathurst, J. Tunley.

PANSIES.

First Twelve.—Orpheus, Lucy Neal, Duke of Norfolk, Marchioness of Lothian, Constellation, Mr. Beck, Climax, Duchess of Rutland, and four seedlings, M. Hollins.

First Six.—Mrs. Beck, Black Bess, Supreme, Emily, and two seedlings, G. Sadler.

GOOSEBERRIES.

Four Heaviest Berries, Ball.	dwt.gr.
Companion	21 12
Pilot	20 0
Thumper	20 4
Kossuth	17 16
Heaviest Berry, J. Tunley.	
Conquering Hero	21 12
RED.	
Conquering Hero, J. Tunley	20 16
Companion, Ball	20 1
Napoleon le Grand, ditto	19 18
Lion's Provider, J. Tunley	18 16
YELLOW.	
Pilot, J. Tunley	19 0
Broom Girl, ditto	19 10
Catherina, Ball	18 16
Dublin, ditto	17 0
GREEN.	
Turnout, Ball	19 12
Thumper, ditto	19 0
Bumper, ditto	17 12
Overall, J. Tunley	17 6
WHITE.	
Tallyho, J. Tunley	19 4
Kossuth, ditto	19 3
Moreton Lass, Ball	17 0
Freedom, ditto	15 0

LEICESTER SOCIETY OF AMATEUR FLORISTS,

At the Wicliffe Rooms, Leicester, August 10.

CARNATIONS.

Pans of Six.—1. Admiral Curzon, South London, Lady Ely, Mayor of Oldham, Falconbridge, and Captain Franklin, R. Marris. 2. Sarah Payne, Cradley Pet, Fanny Gardner, Poor Tom, Squire Trow, and Admiral Curzon, J. D. Hextall. 3. Black Diamond, Squire Trow, Fanny Gardner, Lord Ranclife, Beauty of Brighouse, and Squire Meynell, G. Hudson.

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Pans of Three.—1. Black Diamond, Romeo, and Kay's Splendour, R. Marris. 2. Firebrand, Squire Meynell, and Prudence, F. W. Hollyoake. 3. True Briton, Lorenzo, and Squire Trow, W. Mitchell. 4. Holland's Seedling (purple flake), Sarah Payne, and Lord Ranclifle, J. D. Hextall. 5. Hale's Prince Albert, Squire Trow, and Hollyoake's Miss Rushin, G. Hudson.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Fanny Gardner, J. D. Hextall
2 True Briton, ditto
3 Admiral Curzon, R. Marris
4 Hepton's Brilliant, J. D. Hextall
5 True Briton, ditto
6 Hale's Prince Albert, ditto
7 Admiral Curzon, ditto
8 True Briton, W. Mitchell

Pink and Purple Bizarres.

1 Parker's Captain Franklin, R. Marris
2 Kirke White, ditto
3 Wood's South London, F. W. Hollyoake
4 Duncan, J. D Hextall
5 Black Diamond, ditto
6 Kirke White, ditto
7 South London, F. W. Hollyoake
8 Kirke White, W. Mitchell

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Firebrand, W. Mitchell
2 Firebrand, F. W. Hollyoake
3 Firebrand, J. D. Hextall
4 Firebrand, J. D. Hextall
5 Simpson's Queen Victoria, ditto
6 Firebrand, F. W. Hollyoake
7 Prometheus, R. Marris
8 Victoria, H. Bates

Purple Flakes.

1 Millwood's Premier, F. W. Hollyoake
2 Squire Trow, J. D. Hextall
3 Beauty of Woodhouse, F. Hollyoake
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Queen of Purples, J. D. Hextall
6 Holland's Seedling, R. Marris
7 Lord Byron, J. D Hextall
8 Hudson's Rutland, W Mitchell

Rose Flakes.

1 Sir George Crewe, H. Bates
2 May's Lorenzo, W. Mitchell
3 Sir George Crewe, H. Bates
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Lady Ely, R. Marris
6 Poor Tom, J. D. Hextall
7 Sir George Crewe, ditto
8 Brisies, W. Mitchell

PICOTEES.

Pans of Six.—1. Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland, Dodwell's Alfred, Marris's Victoria Regina, May's Lady Macbeth, Costar's Christabel, and Headley's King James, R. Marris. 2. Headley's Venus, Marris's Bellona, Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland, Robinson's Elizabeth, May's Ophelia, and Wood's Princess Alice, W. Mitchell. 3. Marris's Jeanette, Hogarth, and Bellona, Costar's Christabel, May's Ophelia, seedling, G. Hudson. 4. Headley's Venus, Matthews's Bridesmaid, Fellowes's Haklee, Barnard's Mrs. Barnard, Marris's Hogarth and Duke of Rutland, F. W. Hollyoake. 5. Followes's Countess, Marris's Alexander, Hogarth, and Bellona, Headley's Venus, and Fellowes's Prince Arthur, J. D. Hextall.

Pans of Three.—1. Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland, Marris's Prince of Wales and Victoria Regina, R. Marris. 2. May's Ophelia, and Marris's Hogarth and Bellona, G. Hudson. 3. Norman's Lord Nelson, and Hollyoake's Nina and Duke of Rutland, F. W. Hollyoake. 4. Norman's Lord Nelson, Fellowes's Prince Arthur, and Hollyoake's Nina, J. D. Hextall. 5. Duke of Rutland, Headley's Venus, and Marris's Bellona, W. Mitchell. 6. Lady Alice Peel and two seedlings, H. Bates.

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Robinson's Elizabeth, R. Marris
2 Robinson's Elizabeth, H. Bates
3 Wildman's Isabella, J. D. Hextall
4 Bellona, ditto
5 Hogarth, R. Marris
6 Ditto, ditto
7 Bellona, ditto
8 King James, ditto

Light-edged Red.

1 Edmond's Jenny Lind, J. D. Hextall

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Amelia (seedling), R. Marris
2 Duke of Rutland, F. W. Hollyoake
3 Amelia, R. Marris
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Countess, J. D. Hextall
6 Lord Nelson, ditto
7 Lightbody's Seedling, ditto
8 Enchantress, W. Mitchell

Light-edged Purple.

1 Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland, W. Mitchell
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Fellowes's Prince Arthur, J. D. Hextall
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Rutland, F. W. Hollyoake
7 Rutland, W. Mitchell
8 Bridesmaid, R. Marris

Rose-edged.

1 Mrs. Barnard, R. Marris
2 Grace Darling, ditto
3 Jeanette, J. D. Hextall
4 Rosa, R. Marris
5 Nina, J. D. Hextall
6 Lady Alice Peel, H. Bates
7 Venus, R. Marris
8 Venus, J. D. Hextall

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Two stands of roses, from H. Bates, comprising the following varieties:—Barronne Prevost, Boule de Nantieul, Dr. Arnaud, Mrs. Bosanquet, Souvenir de Malmaison, Jaune Duprez, Barronne Hallez, Aimee Vibert, and Pierre de St. Cyr.

Stand of six dahlias, W. Mitchell, containing Wellington, Bragg's Star, Shylock, Lady Cullen, Master Sheldon and Mr. Sheldon.

Stand of three dahlias, Mr. Snelson, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, containing Prince of Orange, Purple Perfection, and Mr. Sheldon.

CARNATION SHOW.

Ounsdale, Aug. 15.

Best Stand of Seven Blooms.—Curzon, Duke of Bedford, Cradley Pet, Ariel, Blue Ribbon, Elizabeth, Alfred, J. Guest.

Best Bloom of any Class—Squire Trow, J. Elliott.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Lord Lewisham, G. Addis
2 Curzon, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Curzon, J. Guest
5 Curzon, J. Elliott
6 Curzon, G. Addis

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Lord Milton, G. Addis
2 Duke of Badford, J. Guest
3 110, J. Elliott
4 Lord Milton, ditto
5 Duke of Bedford, J. Guest
6 Tipton Hero, G. Addis

Scarlet Flakes.

1 William IV., G. Addis
2 Willmer's Hero, J. Elliott
3 Defiance, J. Guest
4 Lydia, J. Elliott
5 Lydia, G. Addis
6 Cradley Pet, J. Guest

Rose Flakes.

1 Lady Ely, G. Addis
2 May's Ariel, J. Elliott
3 May's Ariel, J. Guest
4 May's Ariel, J. Elliott
5 Ditto, ditto
6 May's Ariel, G. Addis

Purple Flakes.

1 Premier, G. Addis
2 Earl Spencer, J. Elliott
3 Squire Trow, ditto
4 Beauty of Woodhouse, J. Guest
5 Blue Ribbon, ditto
6 Seedling, ditto

PICOTEES.

Red.

1 Miss Rosa, G. Addis
2 Isabella, J. Elliott
3 Jeanette, ditto
4 Youell's Gem, G. Addis
5 Isabella, J. Elliott
6 Cambridge, J. Guest

Purple.

1 May's Portia, G. Addis
2 Dodwell's Alfred, J. Elliott
3 Portia, G. Addis
4 Alfred, J. Elliott
5 Juliet, G. Addis
6 Portia, J. Guest

BURTON-ON-TRENT FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the Town Hall, August 31.

The principal object in view at this show being to bring the dahlia prominently before the public, and to improve the cultivation of it in the neighbourhood, the dahlia growers from all parts were invited to exhibit, and the judges awarded the following prizes:—

Twelve Blooms.—1. Lilac King, Sir R. Peel, Magnificent, Queen of Dahlias, seedling, Duke of Wellington, Annie Salter, Sir R. Whittington, Sir F. Bathurst, Alice, Roundhead, Queen Victoria, Mr. Edwards, Nuttall, Notts. 2. Pacha, Queen of Lilacs, John Edwards, Queen of Beauties, Sir Robert Peel, Sir Chas. Napier, Queen of the West, Duke of Wellington, General Faucher, Louisa Glenny, Beauty of Versailles, Issachar, Mr. Mayle, Edgbaston-road, Birmingham.

Fancies.—Twelve Blooms.—1. Miss Willis, seedling, Spectabilis, Princess Charlotte, Flower of the Day, Rembrandt, Lady Franklin, Mrs. Hanzard, Feather, Miss Weyland, Flora M'Ivor, seedling, Mr. Edwards, Nuttall. 2. Rembrandt, Wonderful, Flora M'Ivor, Princess Charlotte, Forget-me-not, Motley, Mrs Hansard, Miss Weyland, Miss Willis, Triumphant, Zebra, Kossuth, Mr. S. Taylor, Nottingham.

Amateurs.—Six Blooms.—1. Hon. Mr. Herbert, Beeswing, Fearless, Nepaulese Prince, Duke of Wellington, Jullien, Mr. T. Wroughton, Repton. 2. Mr. G. Nadin, Stapenhill.

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

WHAT IS THE CORRECT MARKING OF A BIZARRE CARNATION?

BY OBSERVER.

In the April number of the past year's volume of the *Midland Florist*, I, at some length, mooted the question as to what constituted the properties of a bizarre carnation,—as recognized by some of the leading florists of the day, in contradistinction to the practice of allowing blooms professing to be bizarres, but in reality retaining flake petals, to be staged for competition,—in the hope and expectation that it would have been fully, freely, and fairly discussed; but I see, with some feeling of disappointment, that my remarks have not yet elicited any observation or reply. I have not the vanity to suppose that what I have advanced in support of my statement is incontrovertible; and I wish it to be understood, that it is neither my desire nor intention to disturb the acknowledged "unanimity" of opinions, as the editor of the present work stated in his observations on the last national carnation and picotee show were held by "the judges from Lancashire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, and the south, as to what a flower ought to be." But if what I previously stated is not in accordance with the unanimous opinions of the many able florists above referred to, surely they, or some of the cultivators of the districts which they represented, could, ere now, have communicated their ideas on the question; and I hesitate not to say, that such a course would have been, if not satisfactory, at the least, very interesting, and might have tended to elucidate the point in difference.

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During my autumnal journey, I was informed that the National Carnation and Picotee Society had arranged with the amateur cultivators of Derby to hold their next year's exhibition at that town; and that a committee of practical gentlemen was formed to carry out the exhibition in a proper manner; but before they publish their schedule of prizes, rules, and regulations, I do conceive that something definite should be settled in reference to the point I have so fully alluded to. It was at the "towns exhibition," when held at Derby, where I "observed" the defects in the markings of the bizarre blooms; and I contend that before another great meeting is held there, this matter ought to be finally settled.

This question, however, is not the only one requiring notice at the hands of the committee, but the one I alluded to, in the earlier part of my remarks, as to "split," or rather "cracked petals," demands some little consideration.

In the editor's remarks on the national exhibition, above alluded to, he states that one of the blooms in the second stand of carnations, Simpson's Queen Victoria, was finely marked, "but it had been dreadfully *teazed* with the tweezers." It is to be regretted that this expression, "teazed," was not more explicitly defined; but, as it is, we must presume that the bloom was disfigured. I have always taken it for granted that a disfigured petal, or one lacking the usual amount of colour, if it does not amount to a positive disqualification, is certainly a telling point against the exhibiter; and it has been invariably the custom for the florists, in my neighbourhood, to extract all faulty petals.

Although I stated in my former remarks, *unsuccessfully*, to the York committee, the desirability of settling the points I had alluded to, yet I now venture to impress upon the Derby committee the propriety and expediency of framing some rules to the effect "that a split or cracked petal shall not disqualify, but be a *point* against a stand;" and also

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"that *no flake petals be allowed in bizarre carnations.*" I may be permitted perhaps, now that I am in a scribbling humour, to add a remark or two on the plan of showing carnations and picotees on cards. I am perfectly aware this is a sore subject to interfere with; and I also know that much has been written *pro. et con.* upon the subject; and the fact that *it shows off a bloom to very great advantage,* must be admitted to be in its favour. But here my approval of it must end. The question to be decided is whether this "advantage" is gained in a legitimate manner. I contend that it is not. If, however, the *pro-card* exhibiter can satisfy me that he can so dress his blooms, and give them the same size and appearance without the assistance of a card, then I will, with pleasure, retract what I have written on the subject.

THE PANSY.

THE season being at hand for shifting into their blooming pots these charming little pets, permit me to submit a selection of the best varieties I know, for the benefit of the pansy-loving readers of the *Midland Florist.* I have been a pansy grower for the last twelve years, and must say in commendation of these early-blooming gems, that in my experience, they have been the source of more exquisite delight than any class of florists' flowers extant, not excepting the lovely, chaste carnation and picotee. Considering their primitive cost, their facility of culture and propagation, their blooming at seasons when we have so few out-door plants in flower, it is surprising the apathy that exists in their cultivation. Our friends across the border have done much to give it that position so richly its due; let us, in this more genial clime, warmly emulate their laudable efforts to cultivate, improve, and give *position* to the pansy.

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The following are a nice lot for a beginner; and I beg to remark, they are not selected from report, but from personal knowledge.

SELFS.

White.

Blanche (Turner)
Royal White (Thomson)
Countess of Strathmore (Hampton)

Yellow.

Sovereign (Dickson & Co.)
Yellow Climax (Paton & Small)
Golden Eagle (Dickson & Co.)

Dark.

Irene (Middlemas)
Flower of the Day (Downie & Laird)
Duke of Sutherland (Tunley)

CLEAR YELLOW GROUNDS.

Ajax (Oswald)
Monarch (Hall)
Owen Glendower (Oswald)
Robert Burns (Campbell)
Sir John Cathcart (Turner)
Rising Sun (Turner)
Sir William Wallace (Paton & Small)
Victory (Dickson & Co.)
Fearless (Schofield)

PALE YELLOW, SULPHUR, STRAW, AND CREAM GROUNDS.

Sir Joseph Paxton (Bettridge)
Elta (Middlemas)
Lord Jeffrie (Lightbody)
Lady Emilie (Downie & Laird)
British Queen (Dickson & Co.)
Chieftain (Turner)
Marion (Dickson & Co.)
Rhoda (Dickson & Co.)
France Cycole (Greene)

PURE WHITE GROUNDS.

Miss Jane (Oswald)
Royal Standard (Dickson & Co.)
Marchioness of Bath (Wheeler)
Lady Bute (Paton & Small)
Mrs. Oswald (Oswald)
Royal Visit (Dickson & Co.)
National (Turner)
Miss Talbot (Dickson & Co.)
Earl of Mansfield (Dickson & Co.)

R. R. OSWALD.

Birmingham, Vauxhall, Jan. 16, 1854.

NEW ROSES.

Encore un autre. Yes, for I really must tell you of some of our novelties. You have already got such flowers as Laura Raymond, Augustine Mie, General Castellane, &c., but I have seen some fine

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things this season. I do not know why such sad unpronouncable names are given to good flowers, but what will your readers think of two new roses being called *Prince Chipetowzikof* and *Prince Leon Kotschoubay?* They are brilliant hybrid perpetuals, and will be grown extensively. Both are crimson, but of different shades; the first shot with purple, the latter light and glowing. Then there are several good seedlings, from La Reine. Amongst them is *Volta*, very large, bright rose, good form, with petals nicely cupped. *Diodore* is also one of the same family, of exquisite form, colour deep pink. *Duchess d'Orleans* will be a favourite with your English cultivators; the form is so good, and so refined; the colour is not particularly novel, but the size is large, and the flowers full. *Baron Heecheren* is another very large rose, a good sort, colour a beautiful bright rose. Then there is *Triomphe de Paris*, a superb thing, a very fine bright crimson, a scarce colour in this class. I do not know the raiser's name, but it is really a capital sort. The preceding are all hybrid perpetuals, but we have some fine Bourbon and China roses, which must claim a passing notice. Amongst the former is *Reveil*, a rich shaded crimson, of exquisite form. Then there is *Souvenir de l'Exposition*, much darker than the preceding, and very rich and splendid. Of quite a different character is *Madame Helfenbeim*, large and double, but of a delicate pink. Two other fine sorts must close my notice of this family, namely *Adelaide Bougere*, dark crimson purple, very fine and rich; and *Archeveque de Cambrai*, also purplish crimson. Both have finely formed flowers, and are really a great addition to the class. I must not forget a really good new moss rose,—there are several fine ones besides, such as *Clemence Beaugrand*, *Madame Bohain*, *Octavie*, &c., but I consider *Madame Alboni* the best. It is large and well mossed, in fact, more so than usual, which adds a fresh charm to it. In tea-scented roses, there are several fine additions. A new deep yellow sort,

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called *Madame de Hardelay*, is large and very attractive. *Mareschal Bugeaud* is really first-rate, being a very large and double bright pink. This is a gem of the first water. *Georges de France* is another of the fawn-coloured roses, of which there are now a good sprinkling in this family. It may be considered one of the best. In noisettes and Chinese I have not any striking novelty to report, though there are some which our growers state to be "grand," but not having seen them, I do not think it advisable to say anything about them on this occasion.

R. S.

[Our correspondent must excuse our omitting the remarks about a British rose grower. They are too personal, and at the same time uncalled for.—Ed.]

A CHAPTER ON VEGETABLES.

We have an idea that this may be seasonable, as it will enable our friends to select a few of the best things going, and we trust will be in time to be useful. The Horticultural Society has done much good in simplifying the nomenclature of many vegetables. In peas and lettuce especially they found many similar, under different names. Now, to purchasers it must be a great mortification to buy a bepraised and so called new variety, and find, after all the expectations raised, that it is not a whit better than some old favourite they have grown for years.

Onions are a main crop in small gardens, and in the various horticultural societies that we visit, the artizan prides himself on his skill in producing them thin-necked and of good form and size. The *Brown Globe*, take it altogether, we like best. It is a very hardy and handsome sort. Then there is the *Reading* and *White Spanish*, so much alike that they are hardly worth growing as distinct sorts. Both are mild in flavour, and are perhaps best for sauce. The

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Tripoli, most of our readers know, is for autumn sowing. This attains a large size, and is a profitable variety, but does not keep very well. There is also the *White Globe*, a handsome sort, and will be grown where mildness of flavour is required. Some years ago, a friend of ours gave us two or three onions, which he called the *Blood-red Globe*; they certainly were a fine variety, but very inconstant in character, for the seed from them produced but one in ten of so good a colour as the parent.

TURNIPS are a favourite vegetable, and several varieties have lately made their appearance, whether or not improvements on the Early Snowball, we have not yet decided. We know, however, that the *Early Red Top* is a crisp and excellent sort. So is the *Orange Jelly*, an improved variety, we presume, of the Preston Yellow. It is singular enough, that turnips of this colour find but little favour in the markets of Nottingham, Derby, and Leicester; yet we have seen them in great abundance in Manchester, Liverpool, and Preston markets. At all events, the Orange Jelly should be grown. For a late garden crop, there is nothing better than the *Green Barrel*.

As for CARBAGE, a profitable crop indeed, where the situation is early and favourable, *Waite's King* we have proved to be first-rate, very early, compact, and of mild and excellent flavour. The true *Enfield Market* is a large and fine sort, under good cultivation. The *Nonpareil* is perhaps as good as either of the preceding. We recollect a few plants of this variety being introduced into this neighbourhood, twenty years ago, from Worcester; it proved to have all the good qualities it was said to possess, and from that time to this, has always been highly esteemed here.

CAULIFLOWER BROCCOLI are a useful and favourite vegetable. We have elsewhere described the *Emperor*, a new variety, of very superior quality. Everybody ought to grow the *Walcheren*. It may be had, by continuous sowings, at all seasons. It is dwarf,

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compact, of good colour, and very excellent. The *Willcove* also is really a splendid broccoli, but late, and therefore valuable, coming in at a season when the other sorts are past. We have grown *Chappel's Cream* to a large size, and can recommend it as a most excellent sort. *Elletson's Mammoth* forms an immense head, and grows low. But there is an old sort, which should never be lost sight of, and that is the *Siberian*. It has the good qualities of being dwarf, very hardy, handsome, and excellent. There are perhaps twenty other so called sorts. The preceding will be found all-sufficient.

PEAS.—Amongst the earliest, are *Emperor* (Warner's), *Daniel O'Rourke*, and a blue one, called *Gem*. This we have not tasted, but it comes to us with a high character. Of really profitable sorts, large croppers, and generally excellent, perhaps *Fairbeard's Champion of England* is the best. It is a capital sort, and we have seen it grown by the cottagers and small garden holders, at Birmingham and other places, in first-rate style. It is a favourite variety for exhibition. *Flack's Victory*, when sown thinly, is amazingly prolific, and one of the largest of blue peas. A friend of ours once had an astonishing crop from a small quantity of seed. It does not rise high, and though rather coarse in flavour, it is worth growing anywhere. We are very fond of the OLD *Scimetar*, when true, a most handsome and prolific sort. Then there is *Burbidge's Eclipse*, dwarf, prolific, and good. The three last-named sorts require but short rods. A new one, which is held in high esteem, is *Hairs's Dwarf Mammoth*. This is of high flavour, large, and very desirable. We could enumerate more, but our object in this short sketch is to point out the best and most profitable. Small gardens have not much room for tall peas, yet what can beat *Knight's Tall Marrow* for a late crop? Large, excellent, and productive; after attaining six feet, it should be stopped, it will then throw out laterals, which will produce abundantly, and for a long while

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in succession. If possible, a row should be got in, for late peas are as great a luxury as early ones, and usually of infinitely better quality. *British Queen* is a fine sort, but we do not think quite so refined as Knight's; still it is a splendid late pea. *Waite's King of Marrows*, as a late pea, deserves general cultivation; it has most of the good qualities, flavour, size, &c., besides being very handsome as a market pea.

[To be continued.]

ON THE SYNONYMES OF TULIPS.

In the communication from R. O., under the above head, which appears in your last number, the following passage occurs:—"Your correspondent, C. C., at page 317, in the October number, seems rather desirous of increasing these aliases than diminishing then. He says that Dickson's Duke of Devonshire is the only true and legitimate sort, and names Milner's Duke of Devonshire, amongst others, as being dissimilar. *I think C. C. cannot have grown Milner's strain, or he would not have said this.*"

Your correspondent, R. O., will admit that his latter assumption is rather unfortunate, when I inform him that I had the flower in question from Mr. Milner himself, who was for several years, and until, much to my regret, he went to live twenty miles off, one of my most intimate and valued friends.

Mr. Milner grew the flower very well, and was of opinion that it was identical with the Duke of Devonshire, in which opinion I at first coincided; but when I came to bloom it, which I did in 1848, I saw reason to think otherwise; and as, from its rapid increase, it was soon to be found in most beds, its true character was quickly ascertained, and it was decided to be a good strain of Milton, as broken by Mr. Sanders, Mr. Goldham, and others, but *not the*

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Duke, and upon the accuracy of this decision your readers may fully rely. Indeed, Mr. Milner, although, as stated above, he was at that time of opinion that the flowers were identical, was careful not to call his flower the "Duke," and the name of "Milner's Duke" was given to it by his friends, and scarcely acquiesced in by himself.

Besides the dissimilarity in the flowers, and in the height of the stem, the Duke making a noble fourth-row, while Milner's only reaches a third, the most striking difference is to be found in the rate of increase, the latter flower being one of the most prolific in cultivation, sometimes giving off in one season two or three blooming offsets (as R. O. appears to have found, having obtained, in nine or ten years, a produce of forty or more, from one bulb), while the Duke increases very slowly, a root having been five years in my possession before it produced a single offset.

It is not for me to explain how it happens that competent judges in the country have affirmed the two flowers to be the same. I will not follow the example of R. O., and say that these gentlemen "cannot have grown" Dickson's Duke of Devonshire, although I have a strong suspicion that Mr. Milner's "Milton" is doing duty for it in many provincial collections.

C. C.

NEW PLANTS.

STAUNTONIA LATIFOLIA.—This is said to be a very rapid-growing evergreen climbing plant; and if its character is correct, it will doubtless prove a great acquisition.

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CYCLAMEN MACROPHYLLUM.—As its name implies, the foliage is of unusual size, flowers large, and a fine rosy pink.

FATHER GAVAZZI PANSY.—This is a beautiful flower, raised by Mr. John Holland, of Middleton, near Manchester. It is a yellow ground, of great substance, with bronzy purple belt. It has received a first-class certificate, and, by competent judges, is pronounced one of the best in its class.

BUCKLEY'S GLORY PINK.—We have been informed by Mr. Clegg, who ought to know a good pink, that this is the best purple-laced flower ever produced in Lancashire. We are heartily glad of it. We recollect once purchasing one hundred pairs, and the best amongst them was Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, which we see occasionally wins. The others were named seedlings of the same raiser, but we think they are now lost. They were, generally speaking, well marked, but rough, a point not much thought about twenty years ago.

PERENNIAL HERBACEOUS PLANTS.

WE have often noticed some of the most interesting of the pæony tribe, which are favourites with us, especially that section of it called Pæony alba. The good old *flaunting* pæony is a splendid flower, but rather too much of a good thing for small gardens. The other section has foliage more refined and erect. Of these, *P. Reine des Francais* is very beautiful, the guard petals being rosy pink, whilst those of the centre are cream colour. The contrast is very pleasing. *P. General Bertrand* is somewhat in the same style; the outer petals, however, are darker, but both are highly deserving cultivation.

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BEAUTY OF CHARRONNE DELPHINIUM.—This has been stated to be superior to D. magnifica, but we do not think it is. Nevertheless, it is a fine single variety.

DELPHINIUM PULCHRUM.—This is a seedling of ours, which, if we are not very much mistaken, will prove a great favourite. We sent blooms to the National, also to the editor of the *Gardeners' Chronicle* (Mr. Glenny), and to Messrs. Henderson, all of whom expressed a very flattering opinion of it. At the National, it received a label of commendation, on the following grounds:—"Good form, large size, handsome foliage, and good habit. Flowers lavender blue, each petal being distinctly blotched with pink, and perfectly dissimilar from existing varieties." We think a character of this sort is enough, without our saying much about it.

PAPAVER SPLENDIDISSIMA.—Some of the poppies are very attractive, and make a great show, especially B. bracteata. This sort, however, is not so large, and the flowers are pale salmon colour. It hardly, we should say, comes up to its designation.

PENTSTEMON THEMESTERII.—Of erect habit, with serrated foliage. The flowers are purplish lilac, erect, and produced in great profusion. A distinct and very pretty variety.

CONVALLARIA MAJALIS VARIEGATA.—The lily of the valley is an especial favourite, for its fragrance and the retiring beauty of the whole plant. The foliage of this variety is striped with white, and makes a nice addition to variegated plants.

LINARIA VULGARIS PELORIA.—A rather troublesome plant, we are afraid, unless kept within due bounds. The flowers are orange, produced in spikes, and bloom most of the summer.

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NOVELTIES.

SALT'S CRIMSON PERFECTION RHUBARB.—This variety obtained a certificate of merit at the London Horticultural Society's rooms, on the 28th of June last. It is stated to be an excellent kind, red through the interior, as well as outside the stalks. It is supposed to be of the same breed as Buck's rhubarb (Rheum undulatum), a Russian kind, not so large as some sorts, nor so acid, and very attractive, on account of its fine dark red colour. During the autumn, we had an opportunity of calling at Mr. Salt's garden, and saw the above rhubarb growing. It appears to be selected from scores of seedling scarlets, of more or less merit. Mr. Salt burns a great deal of the soil in his garden, and we saw celery, onions, &c. growing most luxuriantly in what appeared to be POUNDED BRICKS. He informed us that he intended to burn a certain portion of his land yearly, until the whole surface had been submitted to the action of fire. On those parts already done, insects, snails, &c. never made their appearance. Now, as this is what everybody may do to a certain extent, it presents an easy way of bringing foul and neglected places into clean and healthy condition, and we are quite sure the results will amply repay all the troub e bestowed.

LAING'S MAMMOTH CELERY has some peculiarities about it worth recording. Its colour is bright red; weight, with good growth, from ten to twelve pounds; of most excellent flavour. It will not, under any mode of growth, run to seed the first season.

THE EMPEROR, a new late white broccoli. We had a head of this splendid variety sent us, and most excellent it was. It was raised by the Messrs. Elletson, who originated the Mammoth. It is of dwarf habit, and, with good management, will attain the

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great weight of from fifteen to twenty pounds. It also keeps its colour remarkably well, and will stand firm and compact for three weeks after it has attained its full growth.

DANIEL O'ROURKE PEA.—What will peas be called next? Perhaps it does not much signify, so that they are good. This is one of the Early Emperor class, and is said to be earlier than that sort by a week, a difference easily attained by a favourable locality. It is warranted the best in cultivation, cropping well, and being of dwarf habit. The only thing we complain of, is the great number of white peas of this character, which are so much alike as to be hardly worth while keeping distinct.

THE KAISHA APRICOT.—We have, through the kindness of our friend, F. W. Hollyoake, Esq., of Leicester, had the satisfaction of tasting this very excellent fruit, in its dried state. A lady, who had been in Asiatic Russia, brought a quantity home with her, and a great treat they were. The kernels of the stones are not bitter, as those of the apricot usually are, but sweet, like the almond. It is already cultivated in England, and may be had of the principal nurserymen, but we should suppose it has hardly yet fruited. The specimen sent us was pale yellow, the flesh being semi-transparent.

ABIES BRACTEATA, an extremely beautiful new variety of silver fir, has been introduced by the Messrs. Veitch, of Exeter. It is one of the handsomest of its tribe, slender and graceful in habit, and a very great acquisition.

LEPTOSIPHON LUTEUM.—A first-rate, new yellow annual, from that prolific source of vegetable beauty, California.

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EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

HARDY ERICACEÆ.

BY R. M'DONALD, DRUMMOND CASTLE.

THERE are few hardy shrubs better suited for planting in beds in the flower garden than the hardy ericas, and their allies—the daboecias and callunas, and none that give more general satisfaction through the course of the year by their neat and tidy-like appearance, together with their various periods of flowering, and the length of time they continue in bloom. To have these in a free-growing healthy condition, they require to be planted in sandy peat soil; or where that is not to be had, in leaf mould and light sandy loam, in equal parts.

In selecting a place for them, let it be in an open airy part, free from the roots, or shade of trees, and if the soil be wet, it should be made thoroughly dry by good permanent drainage. Eighteen inches will be quite sufficient depth to excavate the soil for the beds. In filling them up, let the soil be only roughly broken with the spade, and made fully higher than they are intended to be, so that they may be the required height when the soil has subsided. Where the beds are large, two-and-a-half or three feet will be a good distance each way to plant them apart; but where they are small, two feet will be room for nice specimens, so as to get in as good a mixture of the different sorts as possible; and as they are moderate in price, two or three plants of one sort may be planted together, which will cover the ground much sooner than if planted singly. They may be planted at any time when the ground is in good working condition, from October till May, but there is no doubt of early autumn planting being the best, and therefore should

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have the preference of any other work that may be done at any other time. In planting these, the strongest growers should be placed in the middle of the bed, and the dwarf varieties towards the side; at the same time keeping in mind the contrasting of their colours, and their time of blooming, so that each bed may contribute an equal share of bloom through the course of the year.

To do this properly, each bed should have as many of one variety of plants as its size will admit of, equally distributed over the bed, which will have a much better effect when in bloom than if planted promiscuously. As soon as planted, they should be either pegged down or tied to small neat sticks, according to their nature of growth, to prevent them being injured by wind, till they get established in the ground; and in spring they should be well topped down to induce a bushy growth. In dry weather they will require to be well supplied with water during the growing season. The only other care they will require, is, to keep them free from weeds, and to stir the surface of the beds occasionally with a hoe, but no digging should be done between the plants at any time. Although these plants are quite hardy, they should not be pruned till the middle of April, as the young shoots that have been partly excluded from the light and air are apt to get injured by sudden exposure to frost.

When they have covered the space allotted to them, they should not be allowed to mix the one with the other, but each plant be kept distinct by itself, and yet not a great distance left between them. A good top dressing of peat every other year will greatly benefit them, which should not only be put in between the plants, but through them, working it well in with the hand among the branches at the same time. To increase these plants by seed, this should be sown as soon as ripe, in boxes or pots, well drained, and filled with peat soil put through a rather fine sieve, liberally mixed with silver or fine river sand, and slightly

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covered with the same; the boxes or pots should then be placed in a cold frame, and kept moderately moist till the plants are ready to plant out in a nursery bed, of the same kind of soil, to strengthen.

But the more common way of multiplying them is by pegging down some of the strongest outside branches, and placing a good handful or two of sandy peat over them. This operation may be done at any time during the winter or spring, and will make nice plants in the course of a year. The following list may be useful to those who are unacquainted with those suited for beds:—Erica carnea (flesh coloured heath); flowers in February and March; grows six inches high; a very ornamental species. E. tetralix (cross-leaved heath); flowers in July and August; flowers, rose coloured; grows about a foot high. There is also a white variety, both of which are very neat and attractive. E. cinerea (fine-leaved heath); flowers in July, August, and September; colour reddish-purple. There is also a red and white variety, all of which are neat and showy; height one foot. E. vagans (Cornish heath) is a fine free grower and flowerer; height about one foot; flowers from August till December; colour, pink. There is also a white variety of this, both are much alike in habit. E. ciliaris (ciliated heath) is a free grower; flowers in July and August; flowers, pink, large, and beautiful; height one foot, and should be in the smallest selection. E. Mackaii (Mr. Mackay's heath); flowers in August and September; height one foot; flowers, pink.

Calluna vulgaris (common ling) flowers in July and August; height about one foot; flowers, reddish. This plant is much employed here for edging to beds, and bears clipping equally as well as box. The common soil is taken out a foot square, and replaced with peat soil, before it is planted. The following varieties of it are all beautiful:—Alba, atrosanguinea, aurea variegata, nova variegata flore pleno, flore pleno alba, the habit of which, and time of flowering

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is much the same, with the exception of nova, which only grows about six inches high.

Daboecia polifolia (Irish heath) flowers from August till December; height two feet; colour, purple; flowers large and extremely ornamental. The white variety of it is also very showy, but is not such a free grower, consequently it does not last so long in bloom. The atropurpurea variety of it is a good shade deeper in colour than polifolia, which is an improvement. Nana is another variety of it, very dwarf and pretty.

Scottish Florist.

THE PINK.

BY AN "OLD" FLORIST.

I HAVE from a boy loved the pink, and I now look back with fond remembrances to my early days, when we cultivated it, not as a "florists' flower," but for its delicious fragrance alone. At that time, we were unacquainted with laced pinks; the only varieties we had were the semidouble rose, and the white, which were grown for market, for nosegays,—the term "bouquet" was very rarely used in my early days, we were then less refined, but more *English*—and I remember I always had a "nosegay," composed of the pink, both rose and white, with "lads-love" and "London pride," for my Sunday coat; and it was with no small degree of conceit that I exhibited it and myself in the most conspicuous part of the parish church.

Time passes on, and the pink, like other things, in these go-a-head days, has undergone a marvellous change. It was a long period before I was gratified with the possession of the pink—*the pet of florists*; my first varieties were a few presented to me by a friend in the north of England, among which were the Duke of St. Albans, Suwarrow, Mars, Humphrey

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Cheetham,* Parry's Union, and a few others; and I need scarcely observe, that they completely eclipsed my semidouble varieties, which, from that time, became neglected, and "drooped and died." Out of the above varieties, Suwarrow is the only one I now cultivate, as with me it is a great favourite; its shape of petal, colour, and lacing, render it a very desirable variety to seed from. I imagine, if it were impregnated with some of the extra dark varieties of the south, which are fuller of petals, a new breed might be fairly anticipated; at all events, I intend to make a trial, and will report progress.

I have been privileged to see many of the new varieties raised the last quarter of a century, but those of the present age completely eclipse all I have previously seen. If I were obliged to award the palm of excellence, it would unhesitatingly be given to the florists of the southern part of the kingdom, as they have, past all contradiction, completely outstripped the florists of the north, in the improvement of this flower; and so long as the last-named florists continue to breed from their own varieties, there is no probability of their success in raising superior flowers. It is generally admitted that their pinks are not devoid of some good properties; for instance, they lace well, and the eye and the lacing generally correspond in colour; and the majority are possessed of good-shaped petals; but these points alone do not constitute a first-rate flower —the principal feature is wanting, which is *size*, combined with *smoothness of petal*. Until these properties are attained, the northern florists must be content with a secondary reputation.

The present work, the *Midland Florist*, contains several essays from first-rate and practical growers, on the cultivation and management of the pink; as also descriptive lists of the new favourites, as they make their *debut*; and an endeavour has also been

* Can any reader of the *Midland Florist* say where this variety is to be purchased?

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made to effect a compromise between the northern and southern florist, as to what the standard of perfection ought to be; yet none of the articles written have brought the subject so near an issue as that in the concluding part of the last volume, from G. Hudson, of Kingston. He proposes that a *national* pink show should be held. Why should not the pink be taken under the patronage of a "national?" Why not indeed! It may be easily and readily accomplished. G. H. shrewdly remarks that offering large prizes is holding out an inducement for *dishonest* showing. Then let us by all means have several, if merely honorary prizes, at a small subscription, say at two shillings and sixpence; which amount shall give every subscriber the option of competing in all classes.

It is suggested that the proposed meeting be held at Nottingham, and as it abounds with florists, who are "good men and true," it is hoped they will, for the honour of the "gentle craft of *floristry*," take the initiative without delay.

RANDOM NOTES ON THE DAHLIAS SENT OUT IN 1853.

BY JOHN BLACK, WEST COATES NURSERY, EDINBURGH.

I BEG to offer a few random notes on the blooming season, or, I should rather have said, the proving season, of the new dahlias, sent out in 1853. These were taken at different times, as a guide to myself what to grow and what to avoid, rather than for publication. The season of 1853, like all other seasons, has, with regard to new dahlias, been one of disappointment; insomuch as those flowers which we hoped would prove such acquisitions to our stands, were quite failures in many instances.

First in my estimation stands *Plantagenet*, a shaded purple of great depth. Will carry plenty of bloom

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without coming small. This will be a great favourite for some time to come. *Sir John Franklin* is rather small, but if well done, will still maintain its previous good character. The colour is not so pleasing as many varieties, being a dull buff; petal and shape unquestionable. Requires to be well thinned out and disbudded. *Monsieur Dugere.*—This flower is but very little known, being one of the continental varieties introduced by Mr. Salter. Colour a deep rich purple, petal and substance unquestionable; a little flat on the face, but still first-rate as a show variety, being very constant, and the right style of centre. *Robert Bruce* is a first-rate flower in the orange buff class, large, good shape and petal, at times a little thin, but nevertheless a first-class flower. *Exquisite*, a stiff-petalled creamy white, splashed with mud colour. This flower ought to be grown under a pot, in order to blanch it. *Amazon*, light, edged with cerise pink; requires to be planted out early, as the first blooms are apt to come too coarse, if too hard thinned, but one of the finest light dahlias extant, when properly managed. *Bishop of Hereford*, dark maroon, of first-rate properties, very scarce, and will, I think, prove a great acquisition to its class. *Bob*, a very constant scarlet, the best in its class, rather too flat on the face, if too hard thinned. *Lilac King*, good early, rather uncertain, may be caught at times. *Miss Caroline*, not a free bloomer, get out early, and from pot roots, requires but little disbudding; shown rather coarse this season. *Brilliant*, a good coloured scarlet, petal ribby, very uncertain. *Lord Nelson*, dull buff, worthless as a show flower. *Grand Duke*, a free-blooming purple lilac, hard-eyed, early, might be caught late. *Beauty of the Grove*, large, coarse pink and buff, won't do. *Queen Victoria*, small, hard-eyed; has proved a failure this season, and I am afraid will continue to do so. *Annie Neville*, a small white-tipped purple, worthless as a show flower. *British Queen*, for all its owner's fine character and challenge, is a long-petalled worthless variety, with-

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out one good property to recommend it. *Sphor*, a worthless variety, cream, tipped with cherry. *Stella Napoleonis*, a worthless purple crimson. *Victoire*, a bad flat shaded purple and lilac, not worth growing even as a border variety. *Pearl of England*, a long-petalled dirty white, worthless. *Countess de Chambord*, thin light tipped variety, at times single. *M. Souchet*, a small ribby yellow, of no value. *Mademoiselle Frediere Portier*, thin, quilly, and worthless light salmon. *Lord Byron*, small salmon, requires plenty of thinning; may be caught at times. *Evangelina*, a thin buff, not worth growing. *Miss Whale*, a coarse light, good for nothing. *Miquet*, a ribby, low-centre orange buff. *M. Duglere*, dingy brick colour, useless. *Comte de Chambord*, a second-rate lilac; worth trying another year. *Agnes*, not up to the mark; long-petalled low-centered white.

In the fancy class, there have been a few good flowers sent out, with a good many that would have been more creditable to the senders out if they had kept them to themselves. However, as I found them so I report them.

Duchess of Kent, yellow, tipped with white. A first-rate flower; has been shown as a pure yellow, in the self class; in general constant. *Reine des Fleurs*, purple and white, good stiff petal, good centre; one of the best in its class, and very constant; ought to be in every good collection. *Wonderful*, rather uncertain, being thin at times, but first-rate when caught; worth growing a hedgerow of, for the sake of getting a good bloom on the day of exhibition. Grow from pot roots. *Claudia*, a useful purple and white, only second-rate. *Mrs. James*, very good, early, hard-eyed, late, salmon-tipped white, not very attractive. *Miss Fanny Moriers*, a quill, pointed-petalled, floretty white scarlet and orange, very uncertain. *Miss Matthews*, a thin scarlet and white, not worth growing. *Harlequin*, a tall-growing mottled maroon and white, won't do. *Prospero*, a passable maroon purple-tipped white, only second-rate.

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Zebra, a tall, quilly, striped, bronzy buff and crimson, not good. *Motley*, as its name implies, rather motley; not up to the mark of the flowers of the present day. *Unanimity*, striped buff and red; the best in its class; ought not to be thinned too hard. *Oilliet Sanspareil*, a worthless mottled Indian red and crimson.

Scottish Florist.

Cupressus Lambertiana.—I beg to recommend to those of your readers who are about planting single specimen trees on their lawns, this fine evergreen, as one of the handsomest we possess. My specimen I received in a quart pot, in February, 1850. It was then eighteen inches high, I planted it in a gravelly soil, in a situation exposed to the north-east, and the growth has been very rapid, it being now ten feet six inches high, and many of the branches reach four feet from the main stem. In colour, which it keeps during the severest winter, it is quite equal to Pinus insignis. It is quite hardy, as last winter it was not at all injured, while two large plants of Cupressus thurifere, and one marked as a Mexican variety, which did not stand many feet from it, were killed to the ground. Cupressus Lambertiana is a very fit companion for the Cedrus Deodara and Araucaria imbricata.—W. S. M. M.

It having been often stated that the class of rose tulips is comparatively scarce, at least those which are pure, I beg to hand you the names of a few which I have seen in excellent character, and which would be an addition to any collection. They are Bion, Camilla, La Vandicken, Brulante eclatante, Lavinia, Irene, La Belle Nanette, Camillus (or Flambeau de la Duchess), Magnificent, Miss Edgeworth, Emily, Catalani John Waterston, Bacchante, *Vicar of Radford, *Nymph, *Fleur de Marie, *Agnes Creswell, *Aglaia, *Heroine, *Napoleon, Geraldine, Rosa

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Blanca, Arlette, Lady Douro, Mantua Ducal, Flora Macdonald, Rose Quarto, and Duchess of Sutherland. Those marked with an asterisk I think decidedly the best.—*Radford Vicarage, Notts. Dec. 7, 1853.*—To the above list we beg leave to add a few. Kate Connor, Lady Clifton, Catherine, Lady Stanley, and Mary Lamb.

We make no excuse for giving this extract from the letter of a friend in Lancashire. "We are having a fair specimen of an old fashioned winter, this season, but I have one consolation under it, viz. that I fondly hope it will be a means of doing away with the potato disease. We have not had such a winter as this since it made its appearance. If this does not make an improvement in it,—[We fear it will not]—I shall have little hopes of its radical cure. I have collected seed again, the past season, from Flukes (potatoes), and intend to try what I can do with it. * * * * There is a nice variety of potato here, called Arrowsmith's Seedling, a good-formed kind, nicely marked at the crown with pink. They are of good quality and do not appear to take the disease so easily as some others. I think it would not be amiss to enclose you a few eyes, at planting time. I have a friend in Cheshire who has raised a new black currant, which he assures me is of superior flavour, and I advise him to send you a specimen of the fruit, next season, which he has promised to do."—J. W.—[We hold an opinion that the potato disease arises from a cause over which hard or mild winters have no control. We are not at liberty to say anything at present, as a friend is trying a series of experiments, to illustrate both "cause and effect," and to him be the honour of disclosure.—ED.]

A FEW NEW ANNUALS WORTH INQUIRING FOR.—*Hibiscus calysurus*, has larger flowers than Hibiscus Africanus, so well known for its striking dark centre, and is a great improvement on that sort. The *New*

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Globe German Aster we saw grown and exhibited at Hereford, last season, and the varieties were superlatively beautiful. Every one who is fond of asters should have these truly splendid sorts. *Iberis lagascana.*—Few annuals are so well adapted for a white mass as the pocket candytuft. This is a great acquisition, being much larger and handsomer.

LARGE LEEKS.—At the Caledonian Horticultural Society's exhibition, on the 1st of last December, Mr. Pousty exhibited an improved variety, called the *Giant,* four heads weighing nine pounds and a half. One of them weighed rather more than two pounds and a half. It was seven inches in circumference, and was blanched to the extent of eleven inches. Our artizan friends, who compete at shows in Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, Lancashire, &c. should look out for some seed of this Goliath. Another variety has been received from France, and grown in the gardens of the Horticultural Society. The leaves are six inches broad, and, measuring from the lower part of the stem, five feet long. It does not blanch so nicely as the other sorts, having a yellow tinge. It is likely to be much in request, as it boils remarkably tender.

It would appear that rotation of crops is not necessary where onions or even carrots grow; for Mr. Thompson, of Woodburn, exhibited some very fine ones at the Caledonian Society, which had been grown on land where a similar crop had been taken yearly during the past thirty years. It thus appears that rotation is unnecessary, if the proper food, in the shape of manure, is supplied each year to the crop.

RAISING GLADIOLI FROM SEED.—The gladiolus is easily propagated from seed. It may be sown about the middle or end of September, as soon as ripe, or early in the following spring, either on a slight hot-

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bed, or in the open air, in pans or boxes, in a light sandy soil. The seed should be covered about a quarter of an inch deep; and the seedlings protected during winter with a covering of two or three inches of leaf mould. The second year after sowing, they may be pricked out into pots, an inch apart; or they may be separated into small balls, and these balls may be allowed to remain in pots until they are large enough for planting out. In about three or four years from the time of sowing, the plants may be expected to flower, when they will amply repay all the care and attention which have been bestowed upon them.—A. M.—*Gardener's Chronicle.*

We are sorry to find that Rhododendron Javanicum will not stand out, even in Cornwall. Two plants, put out to test their hardiness, at Carclew, are both killed.

REVIEWS.

THE FLORIST, FRUITIST, AND GARDEN MISCELLANY. By Charles Turner and John Spencer. *Chapman and Hall, London.*

THE illustration is the *Impatiens Jerdonicæ* (Mrs. Jerdon's Balsam), apparently a most desirable thing, and, we think, as great an acquisition as the D. spectabile. The work is altogether much improved, and worthy of its high position.

THE SCOTTISH GARDENER

GIVES us a retrospect of the past year, and after briefly noticing the progress of floriculture, we are informed that gardeners are scarce, and that consequently there is every prospect of their wages being increased and their position materially improved. Of this we are glad, for we are certain, generally

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speaking, they are much underpaid, in comparison with other trades and professions. Then we have a notice of a new double pansy, said by Mr. Glenny to be as full as the double primrose, and far better in form; with an article on the culture of the rose, entering into considerable detail. These are followed by Aquariums and Aquatics, as applicable to Park and Garden Scenery, the commencement of apparently a very excellent paper, by Mr. James Drummond. These, with some others, render the present number extremely interesting.

THE SOUTHERN FLORIST AND HORTICULTURAL RECORD.

Is this an old friend with a new face? The engraved cover looks like that of the *Scottish Florist*, and we see it is printed and published in Edinburgh. How is this? Surely the editor is not ashamed of his venture. In truth, he has no occasion to be, for the periodical is a fair specimen of what such books ought to be. The first three articles, On the Cineraria—On Pruning the various Classes of Roses—and The Culture of and Pruning the Fig on open Walls, have neither contributors' names nor initials. The next, The Advantages of Root-pruning Fruit Trees, is, we presume, by the editor, B. W. K. The chief of the other articles are, The Comparative Merits of Peas—The Lilium lancifolium—Use of Charcoal—New Plants, &c. We are quite sure there is room enough for our southern contemporary, and we wish him all the success his effort deserves.

THE JOURNAL OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

This quarterly scientific work has most interesting papers, illustrated with engravings, on the vine mildew, by Hugo Von Mohl; also notes on the disease, by the Rev. I. M. Berkley, on the vine and hop, a subject of engrossing interest just now. There

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are also details of visits to such places as Frogmore, Bowood, Dropmore, &c., describing the points of good management, &c. Every gardener should study the above papers, if he wishes to keep pace with the progressive development of the mysteries of his profession.

THE NATIONAL GARDEN ALMANACK, AND HORTICULTURAL TRADE DIRECTORY.

THIS certainly contains the most correct list of nurserymen, florists, seedsmen, and exhibiters that has hitherto been published. Whilst we have noticed time after time, in similar attempts, the names of men who had been dead six or seven years, it was evident that some canvass of the country should take place, to ascertain who amongst us was in the land of the living. Mr. Edwards, apparently, has spared neither expense nor trouble to arrive at correct data in this respect; and not only does he give us an invaluable directory of British professionals and amateurs, but we have those of the Continent, and also of America. Joined to this, is a list of the various horticultural and floral societies throughout the kingdom, with the names of the secretaries and principal supporters,—a most valuable guide to exhibiters. The calender of operations is very complete. We would advise our floral friends to obtain a copy forthwith.

THE GARDENER'S RECORD. Edited by J. T. Neville. *London: Groombridge & Sons.*

WE do not review this and some other periodicals so often as we should wish, simply because they are not forwarded. Editors must not, therefore, suppose that we notice one more than another from any partial feeling. The fault, if any, rests with themselves. The *Record* is a good exponent of floricultural doings in and around the metropolis, and the present number has some especially good articles on tulips, poly-

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anthuses, auriculas, &c.; also one on wintering the carnation, and the culture of the gloxinia, with reports of the horticultural societies' meetings, &c. A very good number.

RENDLE'S PRICE CURRENT AND GARDEN DIRECTORY, FOR 1854.

WE had last year to praise the very excellent descriptive catalogue of seeds issued by Mssrs. W. E. Rendle & Co., of Plymouth. We have had the one for the present year just sent us. It certainly is the best of the kind which has ever come under our notice, and to proprietors of gardens, whether large or small, must prove eminently useful. Under the head of each vegetable are enumerated the best varieties, with its native country, proper mode of cultivation, &c., combining the most improved systems up to the present time; added to which, are lists of flower seeds, proper modes and hints on sowing, with a very complete calendar of operations, by Mr. Robt. Errington (gardener to Sir P. Egerton), a sufficient guarantee of its excellence.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

GRAFING ROSES.—The proper season?

If the stocks have been previously potted, and are in a greenhouse, or frame, they may be worked as soon as there is an appearance of vitality in the stock. In the open air, the same criterion may be adopted. About the middle of March would be a good time.

At what height on the stock, as dwarfs?

Six to nine inches.

In what manner, splice, slit, or saddle?

The wedge mode is usually adopted. We had some from the Continent, last spring, which have done well.

To be clayed, or not?

Those above alluded to were not clayed, neither had they any grafting wax—they were merely tied; but we would recommend the latter to be applied in ordinary cases.

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Would young dog rose stocks answer the purpose?
Yes; but boursault, celina, manetti, or Victoria, are far preferable.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR FEBRUARY.

In the amateur's small greenhouse, or pit, there will now be plenty to do. Watchfulness, in order to keep all right, as far as regards moisture and cleanliness. Verbenas are very apt to *fog off*. They must be kept near the glass, and the soil in which they are planted must never be allowed to become soddened. Lilies, the beautiful sorts called punctatum and speciosum, may be encouraged with more moisture, the spike showing above the pot. These bulbs ought always to be repotted early, or it seriously damages the young roots. Calceolarias are apt to have the greenfly. So are cinerarias. Fumigate as soon as detected. All plants which have become straggling in their growth, may be stopped, or cut back. Geraniums will require attention, and all the masses of bedding plants will want going carefully over, and keeping thoroughly clean. Where shrubby calceolarias, petunias, verbenas, &c. are wanted, if a few old plants are started in peat, they will afford plenty of cuttings, which will strike root readily. In florists' flowers, carnations and picotees will require carefully going over, clipping away any decayed foliage. Should the mildew or spot make its appearance, remove the diseased plants into a separate frame, and dust with sulphur. Tulips are peeping in some localities. Where the stock is valuable, and ten minutes trouble is not begrudged, throw mats over the hoops, when frost is apparent. Have the bed ready for ranunculuses, so that when the soil is dry, the ridges may be levelled and the roots got in at very short notice. Auriculas and polyanthuses will require a little more water. Sometimes early side blooms are thrown up: these should be removed, or they weaken the main truss, which appears in its proper season.

In the kitchen garden, take care that all unoccupied soil is trenched and thrown up in ridges. In old gardens, which have been heavily manured, year after year, a dressing of lime will be found highly advantageous. Early peas may be got in forthwith; also Aldbury Kidney potatoes, which are higher in price than we have known them for some years. Plant plenty of cabbages,—they will be wanted. In dry weather, stir the soil between the rows of those planted in the autumn, and draw it slightly to the roots. On a moist evening, a sprinkling

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of soot or lime will be serviceable, as slugs are very destructive this season. Of course radishes and small salads will be got in, where the situation is warm and suitable. The seeds must be protected from birds. Make plantations of horseradish, rhubarb, &c.

If pruning trees has been delayed, not a moment should be lost. In cutting black currants, allow the shoots to remain all their length; if too thick, cut away low down, and from the centre of the tree. Look over roses carefully. Many Bourbon, tea, and China roses have perished during the late severe frost. Prune close down. Whatever deciduous shrubs or fruit trees are required, let them be got in forthwith. As for evergreens, they will transplant safely till the latter end of April.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

OLDHAM FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the Town Hall, July 13, 1853.

1st Greenhouse Plant.—Chorezema Laurenceana, J. Whitehead. 2nd. Epacris grandiflora, ditto.

1st Stove Plant.—Cytisus reflexa, T. I. Hibbert, Esq. 2nd. Pentas carnea, do.

1st Herbaceous Plant.—Dielytra spectabilis, S. Barlow. 2nd. Cheiranthus Marshalli, W. Chadwick.

1st Light Geranium.—Virgin Queen, J. Whitehouse. 2nd. Magog, W. Ashton.

1st Dark Geranium.—Ajax, J. Whitehead. 2nd. Conspicuum, T. I. Hibbert.

1st Rose Geranium.—Magnificent, J. Whitehead. 2nd. Orion, T. I. Hibbert.

1st Erica.—Highlander, W. Ashton. 2nd. Cavendishii, J. Whitehead.

1st Dark Fuchsia.—Scarletina reflexa, T. I. Hibbert. 2nd. Exoniensis, ditto.

1st Light Fuchsia.—Diadem of Flora, T. I. Hibbert, Esq. 2nd. One-in-the-Ring, ditto.

PINKS.

Purple-laced.

1 Greensides, J. Whitehouse
2 Huntsman, L. Ashmole
3 Beauty of Rochdale, J. Schofield
4 Duke of St. Albans, J. Mills
5 Mango, J. Taylor
6 Club-ace, J. Wild

Red-laced.

1 Joseph Sturge, J. Morton
2 Susanna, J. Wild
3 Tamworth, J. Boardman
4 Little Wonder, J. Wild
5 Dr. Hepworth, J. Smithies
6 Seedling, J. Taylor

Black and White.

1 Lady Boldhaughton, J. Wild
2 Mary (King), ditto
3 Snowball, J. Schofield
4 Virgin Queen, J. Smithies
5 Beauty of Home, J. Mills
6 Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, J. Wild

RANUNCULUSES.

Light Selfs.

1 Unknown, G. Miller, Esq.
2 Unknown, J Yarwood
3 Golden Argus, W. Chadwick

Dark Selfs.

1 Naxara, J. Taylor
2 Unknown, J. Morton
3 Unknown, J. Taylor

Striped.

1 Tartella, J. Morton
2 Cryses, J. Yarwood
3 Unknown, ditto

Edged or Spotted.

1 Unknown. J. Yarwood
2 Tenderesse, J. Taylor
3 Julius, J. Morton

Purple and Grey.

1 Unknown, J. Bardsley
2 Unknown, J. Yarwood
3 Unknown, J. Morton

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ROSES.

Dark Moss
1 Celina, S. Barlow
2 Cinnamon, J. Boardman
Blush Moss.
1 Blush Moss, W. Chadwick
2 Crested Moss, ditto
Red or Crimson.
1 Geant des Batailles, S. Barlow
2 Kleber, W. Bentley
Marbled or Striped.
1 D'Angusseau, S. Cocks
2 New Village Maid, W. Chadwick
Dark.
1 Queen Adelaide, J. Boardman
2 Marjolin, S. Barlow

White.
1 Globe Hip, J. Cocks
2 Princess Clementine, J. Lees, Esq.
Deep Blush.
1 Coupe de Hebe, J. Holt
2 Unknown, G Mellor, Esq.
Light Blush.
1 Stadtholder, J. Wild
2 Madame Oudinot, S. Barlow
Single Moss.
1 Unknown, W. Chadwick
2 Ditto, ditto

August 31.

1st Greenhouse Plant.—Lilium punctatum, T. I. Hibbert, Esq. 2nd. Unknown, W. Ashton.
1st Stove Plant.—Rondoletta, T. I. Hibbert. 2nd. Madenella, J. Lees, Esq.
1st Geranium.—Conspicuum, T. I. Hibbert, Esq. 2nd. Camilla, ditto.
Best Dark Fuchsia.—Clapton Hero, T. I. Hibbert, Esq.
Best Light Fuchsia.—Diadem of Flora, T. I. Hibbert, Esq.
Best Herbaceous Plant.—Statice latifolia, J. Platt, Esq.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.
1 Hepworth's Brilliant, J. Taylor
2 Curzon, W. Chadwick
3 Bardolph, ditto
4 Music, J. Wild
5 Captain Edwards, J. Ashton
6 Gameboy, R. Binghall
Crimson Bizarres.
1 Lord Milton, W. Chadwick
2 Slater's Warrior, J. Schofield
3 Slater's Gladiator, J. Taylor
4 Paul Pry, J. Crompton
5 Nulli Secundus. J. Mills
6 Duke of Bedford, T. Walmsley
Purple Flakes.
1 Squire Meynell, J. Crompton
2 Millwood's Premier, J. Schofield
3 Bonny Bess, J. Mills
4 Miss Thornton, T. Walmsley
5 Mayor of Oldham, E. Whitehouse
6 Lady Peel, F. Williamson
Scarlet Flakes.
1 Wilson's William IV., T. Walmsley
2 Jackson's Vivid, W. Chadwick
3 Lord Byron, W. Macdonald
4 Prince George, ditto
5 Mrs. Abney, W. Chadwick
6 Beauty of Brighouse, J. Schofield
Rose Flakes.
1 Ariel, W. Chadwick
2 Lady Gardner, J. Taylor
3 Hepworth's Maid of Athens, J. Whitehead
4 Apollo. J. Taylor
5 Dobbins' Mountaineer, W. Chadwick
6 Lee's Jenny Lind, J. Bardsley

PICOTEES.

Purple Heavy feathered.
1 Dodwell's Alfred, J. Schofield
2 Norman's Lord Nelson, ditto
3 Mitchell's NulliSecundus, R. Binghall
4 Hepworth's Mary Helen J. Taylor
Purple Light feathered.
1 Holliday's Delicata, J. Taylor
2 Fellowes's Haidee, J. Whitehead
3 May's Ophelia, W. Chadwick
4 Schofield's Mary Schofield (seedling), J. Schofield
Red Heavy feathered
1 Harrison's Picnic, J. Taylor
2 Duchess of Cambridge, W. Macdonald
3 Norman's Mrs. Norman, J. Taylor
4 Hepworth's King John, J. Mills
Red Light feathered.
1 Marris's Jeanette, J. Schofield
2 Dodwell's Mary, J. Whitehead
3 Lamb's Catchfly, J. Boardman
4 Anacreon, J. Wild

1st Pan of Eighteen distinct Varieties of Pansies.—J. Whitehead. 2nd. Do.
1st Pan of Twelve distinct Varieties of Pansies.—J. Whitehead. 2nd Ditto.
The pansies consisted of the following varieties:—Sovereign, Gliff, Miriam, Jubilee, Royal Visit, Miss Talbot, Pandora, Lord Walsingham, Blue Bonnet, Lady Emily, British Queen, Cæsar, Sultan, Flower of the Day, Sir P. Sidney, Comet, Robert Burns, Rhoda, Earl of Mansfield, Mrs. Blackwood, Sir William Wallace, Blanche, Satirist, Queen of England, Mrs. Beck, Sir John Cathcart, Sylvia, France Cycole, Duke of Perth, Euphemia, Juventa and California.

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

MARKINGS OF THE CARNATION, A QUESTION FOR DISQUALIFICATION.

OBSERVER, in his remarks on this subject, probably expected some observations from me, and I have to explain, that engagements of a nature wholly engrossing my attention, at the time his former paper appeared (*vide Midland Florist*, vol. 7, pages 112 to 118), prevented this. Upon the appearance of his last paper (see page 35) I addressed a note to Mr. Dodwell, and in return received the communication appended to this. Agreeing entirely in the train of reasoning therein followed, and in the conclusions arrived at by Mr. Dodwell, I thought this course more satisfactory than a mere reproduction of the same ideas, and therefore sought and obtained his permission to give it publicity.

If indeed the question of colour in the carnation were not understood, and its effects were not appreciated, then there would be a sufficient ground for defining its operation, and the rules which govern its influence. But these, as Mr. Dodwell explains, have been long in existence, and are easy to be understood; and in their application, and the appreciation of effect colour produces, there is absolutely no difference in the minds of those accustomed to the subject.

As an illustration of this, if we refer to the Edinburgh stand of flowers, at the towns meeting, we find Observer comments upon the "deficiency of marking" observable therein, meaning, as I interpret him, the absence of that contrast, boldness, and variety which is so eminently due to rich and dense colours. Mr. Wood says of them (see vol. 6, page 272), "they would have held a very prominent

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position, but from the circumstance of the crimson bizarre having a run petal, and several others having no dark stripe in them." Mr. Turner, in the *Florist*, for 1852, page 200, remarks, "the bizarres were very deficient in marking, much too little of the dark colour to give them that richness for which carnations are so much admired;" and I, in my own way, have dilated upon the "absence of those striking colours which give contrast and variety." I know also, from communications I have seen, the exhibiter produced such flowers from necessity, and by no means from a want of knowledge of, and feeling for, the effect of colour.

It is, therefore, a question whether the absence of the bizarre colour in any single petal of a given specimen, constitutes a sufficient ground for *disqualification;* and when we remember the many elements on which beauty in the flower depends, as symmetry, texture, smoothness, rich colours and refinement, and that all these might be invaded with impunity by a specimen not deficient in an almost inappreciable quantity of bizarre,—absolutely so, so far as effect depended,—whilst another, rich in all these elements, but without that inappreciable quantity of bizarre, would be inevitably doomed, I cannot hesitate in saying no.

Split or cracked petals are indeed a serious fault, inasmuch as the injury arises either from carelessness or inability on the part of the operator; but I think it wholly unnecessary to do more than comment upon the fact, as it cannot fail to be a "point" against the exhibiter, from the deterioration of harmony otherwise existing in the flower, and as such I am sure it has always been regarded by intelligent judges.

With reference to the practice of showing the flower on a circular card, I confess I am much surprised to find that Observer, whilst admitting its excellence in that it "shows off the bloom to great advantage," contends the system is not "legitimate,"

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but omits to adduce any reason, or the shadow of a reason, for such a conclusion. Such a course, in its very nature, is likely to create soreness and dissatisfaction, as it appeals to all the vague and undefined evils which can beset the subject, and is wholly unworthy the careful deduction and calm reflection which should eminently distinguish florists.

If Observer will enter without bias upon the task of determining what is legitimate (to which it might be quite sufficient to refer him), he will find how vastly different is the demonstration of the most simple things, and that of raising objections. And precisely the same chain of reasoning which justifies those things Observer will admit,—the art of the cultivator and dresser,—will justify the use of the card. It is simply the adaptation of means to a required end,—the end required being greater harmony and contrast, and variety,—and this the card supplies. No objection to the effect produced by the painter's application of the laws of perspective, or of light and shadow, in a picture, could be tenable, and an objection to the effect produced by the card, its greater contrast and variety, is equally fallacious, the effect being in each case, and obviously, due to art.

Z.

"*Derby, February* 11, 1854.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have delayed replying to your inquiry, 'did I propose to adopt the suggestions of Observer, published in the *Midland Florist* for the present month, and in the April number for last year, or to offer any reply to the remarks made,' for some few days, to enable me carefully to review the whole question, so that I might not by a hasty decision do harm to a cause I have nearly at heart. Now, however, that I have reviewed the subject, I feel strongly confirmed in my first impression, that impression being that the

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adoption of Observer's suggestions would be most injudicious. I cannot therefore advise the committee charged with the conduct of the coming exhibition of the National Carnation and Picotee Society to introduce into the schedule of prizes the conditions mooted; nor do I propose to reply, inasmuch as I fear great misunderstanding may arise, from the fact that the subject rather requires illustration than discussion.

"But as I am anxious not to err, I will, as briefly as I can, recite to you the reasons which have guided me to the conclusion I have adopted, and should you see in them any fundamental error, I shall be glad to have your correction.

"In the first place, easy as it may seem to determine that the petals of a bizarre carnation shall contain three colours,—that is a white ground, with a colour upon a colour, as black or marone upon scarlet, or purple upon pink,—it appears to me that before a 'disqualification' can be founded upon the absence of the black, or marone, or purple, reference must be had to the primary rules upon which the excellencies of the flower depend. These excellencies are produced by two means, easy of appreciation, FORM and COLOUR. 'FORM,' says Iota, in his essay on the philosophy of florists' flowers, 'is available in two respects, *absolute* or direct, which is sought for its own sake; in that some forms are in their nature more pleasing than others, as a curve is more graceful than a straight line, and some curves than others; and *relative*, or indirect, which is subsidiary to some other purpose; in that some forms are better suited than others to set off colours to advantage, as a smooth petal exhibits its markings more perfectly than a wrinkled one can.'

"'COLOUR is simply for its own sake; but it produces its effect in two ways,—by *contrast*, as in painting, light appears to be thrown upon any point by placing a shadow beside it; and by *combination*, as purple unites harmoniously with either of its constituent

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elements, red or blue, while green will hardly unite with any other. Form or shape is the figure contained by a limiting outline. And it is the outline which for the most part suggests to the mind the idea represented by the figure. There is, therefore, always one leading idea suggested by every flower, controlled by the general outline of its form, and the disposition of its principal parts. This is the characteristic of the flower, to which all its other properties must be subservient. And as the general outline takes the lead in the impression produced by the flower, a defective form in it cannot be compensated, because there is nothing of equal value, by a counter excellence, in which it might be balanced.'

"Applying this reasoning to the carnation, it appears to me impossible to avoid the conclusion, that to 'disqualify' for the absence of one colour in one or more petals of the bizarred varieties, is directly to subordinate the superior property of the flower to the inferior, a course which I feel satisfied would be as unhappy in its results as it is untrue in theory. Granting the rule of disqualification urged by Observer, would not form (necessarily outraged according to him by the practice pursued in deference to colour) have an unanswerable claim for a similar protection? Surely it is impossible to deny it, not to say a word upon the claims of other properties and conditions of the flower, all of which, with colour, are relative, and the inevitable effect of such restrictions, if granted, would be an irreparable injury.

"If we examine the question in another light, it appears to me to be equally decided that the rule asked for is untenable. When, many years ago, our florist fathers first gave attention to the beauties of the carnation, a rule was evolved that in every specimen submitted to competition, there should be 'no petal without any white, no petal without any colour.' This rule has come down to us, and is universally recognized, for a reason easily to be understood, viz.

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that a self flower possesses none of the contrast or variety found in the striped or flaked specimen, and consequently it belongs to a lower order. But our fathers did not rule that the *amount* of contrast should be exact in every specimen, they knew that was relative and illimitable, and as they could not possibly pretend to confine, so they did not presume to reject. They required only that contrast or variety should exist, and in each petal. That requirement we also stringently insist upon, and if we permit a bizarred variety to win, in which shall be found a petal or petals flaked merely, we in no way violate it, inasmuch as *variety*, though of a lesser order, still exists therein.

"For these reasons I object to the adoption of the disqualification proposed by Observer. At the same time, I must guard myself from being supposed to advocate, or even to be indifferent to, the absence of that richness and contrast which belongs in its fullest measure only to the bizarres. On the exhibition table I have illustrated my feeling in this respect, and there it is that this question must be solved.

"With reference to Observer's second suggestion, is it possible that because no reference was made to split or cracked petals in the conditions of the schedule, he can have supposed that the judges made their award without any consideration for such an evil? If he has, you can show him how much he is in error. For my own part, I think it a work of supererogation to point out to a JUDGE that cracked petals greatly detract from the value of the specimen. But as this evil was pointed out as belonging prominently to the Derby stands, I trust you will excuse my reminding you (as evidence that I am not indifferent on the subject) that when yourself and some other friends offered your felicitations on the beauty of the specimens exhibited, it was myself who brought the disfiguration into notice, and I doubt not you will remember our after conversation on the subject.

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"Observer's remark that 'several cultivators of the day' contend 'size is a *sine qua non*, whilst purity and marking are secondary qualities,' is quite a novelty to me. I am not aware that any person entitled to attention has uttered any such dogma. But I do know the opposite, that is, that size without refinement, well-defined and rich colours, has been repeatedly deprecated. And surely there cannot be an insuperable difficulty in pointing out to him, how himself and friends may 'abandon their present mode of dressing without adopting the method advocated in the *Gardeners' Record*.' Setting out the egotism involved in *my* saying it, what has he to do but follow the practice illustrated in the Derby stands, avoiding only the evil of the cracked petals? Observer says expressly, 'he had never before seen so fine a collection of flowers,' 'the majority being first-rate specimens, and those from Derby fairly obtained their post of honour.' Therefore, as the Derby flowers were not 'flat,' or 'loose,' and had not a 'butterfly' appearance, the 'practice' which makes blooms so cannot be imperative, and may be avoided. For if that 'practice' were right, the stands of flowers from Leeds and Wakefield, treated by it, should have been in the superior place; but such an assumption is expressly negatived when Observer says, the Derby stands fairly obtained their post of honour. And if the faults of the flowers in those stands (Leeds and Wakefield)—their 'flat' and 'pancake-like appearance,' were due, as explained by Observer, to the practice he nevertheless advocates, this in itself constitutes its condemnation.

"Observer certainly contrives to introduce a novelty into his attack upon the system of showing the flower upon cards. Hitherto the card has been the anarchial element in the exhibition of the carnation, the grand destroyer of all which had been through hundreds of years laboriously built up. But all that has vanished, and the tables are turned with a vengeance. Having secured a triumphant acquittal from the *evils* alleged

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against the poor card, we are now to be tried for the *advantages* attending the system. This reminds me of a story told of a certain incorrigible vagabond, who, in the agony of a well-merited flogging, called out incessantly to the executioner, 'hit higher,' 'hit lower,' which the man attending to, declared at last, 'there was no way of pleasing him, hit how he would.' And it seems to me, that our anti-card friends are equally hard to please. Seriously, I sincerely regret to see one evidently so much in earnest so superficial. Observer says the advantage must be admitted, but he wants proof of its legitimacy, and the only proof he will admit, is the positive assurance that it is no advantage at all! This is very funny,—I wish it were equally edifying. When will our florists come to understand first principles? Are those who fain would teach according to their capacity, doomed for ever to roll the stone?

"Ever, my dear sir, yours very truly,

"E. S. DODWELL.

"P.S.—I have read this letter to my friends here, Mr. Adams, Mr. Bayley, and Mr. Parkinson, and I am desired by them to express their full concurrence in the conclusions. Of course you are at liberty to refer to this, should you think of offering any remark in the matter. If you know Observer, and will introduce him to me, should he be at Derby, he shall have the opportunity of acting with the judges, and impressing his views upon them, though I decline to adopt his suggestions."

A CHAPTER ON VEGETABLES.

[Continued from page 43.]

We promised, in our last, to continue our chapter on vegetables, and will now talk about Beans. The *Green Windsor* is by no means so strong in flavour

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as the white kinds, and is desirable also for its beautiful lively colour, when cooked. There is a *Green Long-pod* (at least so called), but we have a dim recollection of some one manufacturing Green Long-pods out of Green Windsors, by passing the small ones through a seive or riddle, and giving them the former designation. *Johnson's Wonderful* is really worthy of its name, having remarkably long and straight pods. It bears most profusely, and is one of the very best. Then there is the *Old Windsor*, and *Taylor's Windsor* and *Thick-seeded Windsor*, all good, but plaguily alike; in fact, too much so for small gardens to grow more than one of them. Independent of these sorts, no garden should be without its row of *Scarlet Runners*. Whether for the beauty of the flowers, the rapidity of its growth, its adaptation for a summer screen, or its amazing productiveness, it may in truth be considered one of the best and most profitable of summer vegetables. Many of our readers possibly are not aware that it is perennial, and could the roots escape frost, they would put up again in spring, like the hop or the bryony; but from its seeding so freely, and coming to maturity so early, it is seldom or never protected, and fresh sowings are made each spring. This sort is the best flavoured, and universally grown.

How useful, this spring, has been a good flat of BRUSSELLS SPROUTS, or BROCCOLI, and what, in the shape of vegetables, can be better? When well grown, they are very profitable, and their hardiness is beyond doubt. We have them now (Feb. 8) on a slope, exposed to every blast from the north-east, and they are as green as if there had been no winter. Some sorts are better than others, but this, of course, depends in a great measure on the seed; for, like all the brassica tribe, they are inclined to sport and run off. Hence we see some with long stems and few sprouts; in fact, too lanky for anything. The imported seed is considered the best, and when to be obtained good, ought to be duly prized.

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CARROTS are much in demand as a most excellent vegetable, and at our horticultural shows, at Nottingham, the *Altrincham* is usually exhibited. It is large and well flavoured, and one of the hardiest. The *Long Orange* does not attain the size of the preceding, and is more taper and possibly handsomer. There are, besides these, several other sorts of red, white, and yellow, but these most certainly are the best.

As for LETTUCES, who would be without them? Their wholesomeness and excellence render them general favourites. There are a great number of varieties, at least so called. As a summer lettuce, the *Drumhead* is large, crisp, and excellent. We believe this is synonymous with *Belle Bonne*, which, some years ago we had from the Horticultural Society of London. The *White Coss* is a first-rate sort, and has, we believe, many aliases. At all events, this should be grown in every garden where there is room. The *Bath Coss*, both white and black seeded, are fine winter and spring varieties, being very hardy and excellent. We have grown *Ady's Coss* to a large size, and it appears less liable to run than some others.

PARSLEY is another vegetable which is indispensable in every garden, whether large or small. Most seedsmen have a favourite sort; in fact, by careful selection, the beauty of the finely curled foliage is now considerably increased, and much pride is taken by cottagers in the possession of the best curled sort. We think Myatt's variety is very excellent. There is a giant curled parsley, very productive, and good for market, but it is coarse, and not to be compared to the previous sort.

The varieties of CELERY have increased very much of late years, and the quantity grown in the country is immense. It is usually eaten raw, but those of our readers who have not eaten it stewed, should do so, for in the absence of potatoes, every vegetable which can in any way be used as a substitute, is

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doubly valuable. We used to have a fine large red sort, grown at Mansfield, Notts., peculiar for its large and broadly divided smooth foliage. We have tried Seymour's varieties, both red and white, and can recommend them. *Cole's Red* is also very excellent and of fine flavour, has been grown to a large size, and is of a peculiar lively pink; whilst *Laing's Mammoth*, which we noticed in our last number, appears to be still further in advance in the right direction being larger, of fine flavour, and, however early planted, shows no disposition to run to seed, a point of great importance, where early crops are required.

[To be continued.]

THE CARNATION AND PICOTEE, AND THEIR PERIOD OF FLOWERING.

Experienced cultivators of these flowers are well aware that any attempt largely to anticipate or retard their period of flowering, by subjecting them to a course of stove or greenhouse culture, is certain to result in failure, and generally in the destruction of both flowers and plants. But whilst the indubitable fact exists that these plants are most impatient of an interference with their natural habits, it is equally the fact that a great modification may be effected in the period of bloom, without the slightest evil, provided the process adopted does no violence to the rules on which their successful culture depends.

As an illustration of this, I need do no more than remind any interested reader, that the period of flowering has varied very considerably between his own collection and those of other cultivators in his neighbourhood, precisely as the situation in which the plants have been placed, after potting for bloom, has been warm or cold, sheltered or exposed, or as the plants may have been vigorous or weakly, when

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put out. Such a fact, I doubt not, has been noticed by every observer, and as a further illustration of this power of modification, and of what may be done in the limits of a small garden, I may mention, that the whole of the flowers taken by myself to the National, at York, last year, were cut from plants which, from the time they were planted out, were placed in the protection of the garden frames, and which, from that cause alone, were quite six days in advance of the general bloom. Nor is this a solitary experience, similar modifications have invariably occurred.

I have been led into making these remarks, from the fact, that during an extended canvass, on behalf of the National Society, and its meeting for the present season, I have met repeatedly with an expression of regret that the differing period of bloom would prevent the possibility of a competition, which otherwise would be heartily entered into. And as I think this objection is not wholly substantial, I venture to controvert it so far as the facts I have adduced may. In attempting such a modification, however, it must be borne in mind, that whatever may be the course pursued, whether to retard or hasten the bloom, the process, in all cases should be *very gradual*, and exactly adapted to the state of the plant. To make my meaning more distinct, it will be remembered, the first movement of the plant, after its winter rest, is comparatively slow, and is gradually hastened, until it culminates in the intense excitement of the bloom, and any assistance rendered for the purpose of hastening the development of the flower, should have a precise relation to the movement of the plant. Thus, whilst at the *opening of the flower*, it may, without harm, be subjected to forty-eight or seventy-two hours of a close stove temperature, such a course to *start with* would be positive death. And the same holds in any attempt to retard the bloom. To submit the plant to the unrestricted influence of the early spring and sum-

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mer's sun, and then, in the excitement belonging to it at midsummer, suddenly to subject it to the comparative gloom and coldness of a northern aspect, would produce an inevitably fatal check. But if commenced at the proper period,—the first movement of the sap,—the desired end may be attained, without injury. The *modus operandi* is exceedingly simple. To hasten the period of flowering, effective shelter, implying increased warmth, and vigorous plants are needed;—to retard,—a northern aspect (sheltered, however, from violent storms and cutting winds), and the intense sunlight gently broken by a hedge, or shrubs, or a fine light net, as may be convenient. The former of these conditions may be obtained by the use of the garden frames, selecting the warmest and driest part of the garden, or by placing the plants at the foot of a south wall, or in the shelter of a hedge, or by the use of flake hurdles, hoops and mats, or in many other ways the fertile imagination of a good florist will readily suggest. In all cases, it would be an advantage to plunge the pots in slightly-moistened sawdust, turner's shavings, or other *very slowly* decomposing material. As the means of retarding are available almost everywhere, nothing more need be said on that point.

I therefore trust many, who may have thought themselves out of the pale of competition for the present season, will give my suggestions a fair trial, as I feel assured cultivators in the most backward districts may produce flowers in fine condition, by such means, by August 3rd, and the same may be done from the later varieties, in the extreme south. And does not a "national" demonstration *deserve* this effort? Does it not *require* it? Of all agencies within the command of florists, is there one capable of such results as a national gathering? As a source of delight, as a school for information, as an illustration of the florist's art and its truth, and as a means of obtaining for him his proper place in the estimation of the public, how may it be excelled?

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Already, as its first, and I had almost said, fairest fruit, ignorant dissension has fallen before it; and thus stripped for the race, (and of such a cumbrous, monstrous load!) shall we stand listless, or shall we, by a unity of effort, show what is due to the long-thought insignificant florist? Properly managed, these exhibitions may conduct us to a place coequal with that of the sculptor and painter, and nothing less should content us.

And is not the *flower* worthy of some effort? Rejoicing in excellencies surpassed by none, once described, and by the master-mind of all men, as "the fairest 'o the season," of almost infinite variety, and capable of the most wonderful modification, shall we permit it to occupy a second place? Can we uncaringly pass by its appeal for regard? Can we cast off the direct hold it has upon our sensibilities in the fact that it *needs* our devotion? For, wanting in the facility of increase, the element of profit to the commercial propagator, it can hope for nothing but a bare toleration at *his* hands. But to the florist, whose heart is instinct with the love of beauty, in whom chivalrous feeling springs spontaneously, this very weakness is a delight, because it gives a right to his devotion. In days gone by, our old knights loved nothing so well as succouring the weak, and battling for the helpless, even to their lives' cost. Living now in days of superior enlightenment, are we to degenerate? Shall we permit merit of the highest, beauty of the rarest, to sink into neglect, because the commercial element is wanting? Florists of England! carnation growers of the whole world! help me with overpowering might to say NO.

A few words in conclusion may be interesting, and prevent misapprehension. Earnestly as I desire my appeal may move all, especially those not otherwise addressed, it is not made in the fear of a paucity of support, but that not one may be absent, who should be present. The support already promised has ex-

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ceeded the most sanguine expectations of the committee, and enabled us to offer an amount in prizes without any parallel in the history of the carnation, the total exceeding by seventy per cent. the very liberal sum given at York. As a matter of comparison, I may perhaps say, I believe the largest exhibition of these flowers ever known was the "grand trial exhibition," held here in 1850. On that occasion, prizes were offered for twenty collections of *six* blooms in four classes (so that five exhibiters might have divided the honours amongst them), and forty-eight for single blooms, the total money value being twenty-four pounds. Thirteen competitors disputed the possession of these honours. For the coming meeting, the prize list embraces a total of seventy guineas, in twenty-two collections of *twelve* blooms, sixteen of six blooms, and eighty single specimens. Yet, notwithstanding this great increase, I believe the competion will considerably exceed in its severity the ratio of the former. Thus far the committee have the promise of great success; it remains for the cultivators of these flowers to make it a reality.

E. S. DODWELL.

Derby, February. 1854.

NEW PLANTS.

Some splendid new gladioli, imported from the continent, have been flowered during the past year. Amongst them was *G. M. Blouet*, with fine large flowers, composing a magnificent spike; and *Oscar*, a rich scarlet, with white stripe, an attractive and beautiful sort. We saw some fine examples, of *G. brenchleyensis*, an English variety, which every one fond of this beautiful tribe of plants ought to

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grow. It is rich scarlet, of good habit, and quite a gem.

OXALIS ELEGANS is a very pretty herbaceous perennial. The flowers are purple, with darker centre, and produced in great profusion.

Amongst hollyhocks deserving of notice, *Chater's Mont Blanc* is a beat on our Belladonna, which, nevertheless, is a beautiful white, and comes very true from seed. *Bircham's Sentinel* is a noble rich crimson, of extra fine habit, and extremely attractive, from its glowing colour and good form. *Roake's Hon. Mrs. Ashley* makes as fine a spike as the preceding, and is a capital contrast, being of good form, and a fine delicate pink. *Bragg's A.* l is distinct from any of the preceding, having petals dark at the base, with white edging. Certainly an attractive variety.

There are also some splendid verbenas coming out, a few of which we shall note now, leaving the others for next month. Mr. Robinson, who raised the popular variety, Defiance, has originated one in a different style. Its habit is better, and it really is first-rate. It has most good properties, as smoothness of petal, size of truss, &c., and the colour is white, with a deep crimson centre. *President*, raised by Mr. Edmonds, is another great acquisition. This is a deep crimson marone, with white centre. It will prove a first-rate sort for exhibition, making, as it will, a fine contrast with other sorts. *Rouge et Noir*, by the same raiser, is dark crimson, with white centre. Perhaps the most beautiful is *Annie Laurie*, a lively purple, with white eye. This, independent of colour, has most other good points to recommend it.

Considerable dissatisfaction has been expressed by many florists of our acquaintance, that numerous dahlias let out of late years have not realized ex-

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pectations. We see that there is again a goodly number coming out, which have received first-class certificates, and we hope that more success will attend our exhibiting friends; for how often does it happen that while a flower in one man's hands shall be done well, with another person it shall be quite inferior. Collins has raised a good yellow, called the *King of Yellows*. A first-rate one was much wanted. This we have seen very good.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

EFFECTS OF THE WINTER ON EVERGREENS,

IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF NOTTINGHAM.

If evergreens will not bear the winter, they are of no use to us, and as perhaps, a numerous class of our readers have the same feeling, they would like to know what have stood well and what have not.

The *Cryptomeria Japonica*, a plant about twelve feet high, forming a beautiful pyramid, is unhurt; whilst plants eighteen inches high, in pots, plunged in the soil, are very much browned. The *Biota glauca* (Glaucous Arborvitæ), a grafted plant, has suffered severely; whilst the two beautiful sorts, *Thuja aurea* (Golden Arborvitæ) and *Thuja empetrifolia*, are untouched. The Garreyas are considerably injured, especially *G. latifolia*. The beautiful Japan Privet *(Ligustrum Japonicum)* has the points of its shoots destroyed, but will come round again. *Ligustrum ovalæfolia*, also from Japan, appears as hardy as the common privet. Hollies have stood well, with the exception of *Ilex tarajo*. Its large foliage is completely black, and destroyed. The wood, however appears green, and will most likely put out

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again. The Gum Cistus, in many instances, is killed to the ground. The Laurestinus has suffered severely, and the sorts known as *viburnum*, *rugosum*. and *Nepaulense*, are utterly destroyed. A large plant of the graceful *Juniperus Bedfordiana* is quite green and unhurt, whilst smaller plants, in pots, are killed to the surface. Araucarias, in some localities, near Nottingham, are much browned, and in some instances, killed. *Cedrus Deodara* appears as hardy as the larch. The Junipers, *interrupta*, *sinensis*, *Cracovia*, and *filiformis* are safe. Amongst Pines, *Benthamiana*, *macrocarpa*, *Sabina*, *Cephalonica*, *pinsapo*, and *Douglasii* are untouched; whilst *insignis* and *radiata* are severely cut. This is the case with the Laurels, both common and Portugal. The Arbutus also is much damaged; and in fact, since the winter of 1837-8, we have not suffered so much as this season.

STANDARD RULES FOR JUDGING TRAY VEGETABLES.

We have had handed to us the following rules, adopted in judging vegetables, at the Huddersfield Horticultural and Floral Society. This system points out the defects and merits of each production, and in the table added, it will be readily perceived how it works. John Gill, having the highest number of points, takes the first prize; John Arnold, the second; James Netherwood, the third; and so on. The excellency of this plan will be apparent, as the table is published, and thus each exhibiter may see at a glance *why* he is beaten. We recommend the plan most cordially to the committees of all horticultural societies.

It is desirable that there should be laid down some reasonable and fixed rules for judging the articles exhibited on the tray.

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This is the more necessary, as the opinions of competitors differ so much from each other.

By pointing out the principal properties that each article ought to possess, with their greatest defects, will considerably facilitate the decision of the judges, and serve as a guide to exhibiters.

The articles on the trays will be judged by the annexed numbers:—25, 20, 15, 10, and 5.

Articles that possess every good property will count the highest number, 25, as the maximum; whilst articles that are very defective to count the lowest number, 5,—15 as the medium, and the intermediate number, 10 or 20, according as the article possesses less or more of the properties pointed out.

	GOOD PROPERTIES.	DEFECTS.
CUCUMBERS.	Form straight, and of even thickness. Length nine diameters. Neck half diameter. Slight rib. Short spine. Colour dark green. Bloom perfect. Blossom adhering to the fruit.	Crooked fruit. Long neck. Coarse spine. Deep rib. Bad colour. Inequality of length and thickness.
CAULIFLOWERS.	White and compact. Size in combination. If a brace, equality of size.	Bad colour. Openness. Spots from the ravages of insects.
PEAS.	Green pods, covered with bloom, Peas dark green and even in size. Quantity in combination.	Grey pods and seed. Inequality of size and age.
POTATOES.	Firm and white. Free from spot or blemish. Eyes even with the surface. Size in combination.	Bad colour. Sunken eyes. Unevenness of size and surface.
CARROTS.	Bright orange scarlet. Small top. Good shoulder. Straight, and free from blemish on the skin. Evenness in size.	Thick neck. Green shoulders. Skin defaced by insects.
CELERY.	Solid and crisp. Well blanched. Free from spot or the ravages of insects. Size in combination.	Hollow pithy leaf stalks. Ill blanched. Worm-eaten or discoloured leaves. Piped heads.
SCARLET RUNNERS.	Colour dark green. Straight and even. Length in combination.	Light colour. Crooked and short. Seed visible from the outside.
ONIONS.	Firm, and well ripened. Neck small. Size in combination.	Thick neck. Unripe bulbs. Unevenness in size.
RED CABBAGE.	Colour dark red. Firm and close. Narrow midrib. Size in combination.	Light colour. Openness. Broad midrib. Run centre.

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COTTAGERS' TRAYS OF VEGETABLES.

Exhibiters' No.	406	405	421	400	422	410	418	401	424	408	407	423	412
Potatoes	25	24	20	24	23	22	15	14	15	10	16	8	13
Carrots	25	23	22	21	24	16	10	20	11	20	7	19	8
Onions.....	24	22	19	23	15	20	25	21	18	17	11	8	17
Peas.....	22	21	25	16	19	17	15	23	24	14	20	19	18
Celery	25	23	22	14	16	8	24	5	19	18	12	21	10
Cabbage (Red)	24	22	23	25	7	19	10	16	11	17	18	7	15
Total No.....	145	135	131	123	104	102	99	99	98	96	84	82	81
NAMES OF EXHIBITERS.	John Gill	John Arnold	James Netherwood	Richard Batley	John Blamires	A. Kilner	James Dyson	John Pilling	John Hall	George Hargreaves	Abel Sykes.....	Allen Haigh	Benjamin Brook ..

A CURE FOR THE POTATO DISEASE!

We are sure that any hint whereby the ravages of this disease can be stayed, will prove highly acceptable to our readers; and as our friend, Hudson, asserts that he has tried his plan with perfect success, we will give him credit for his sincerity, and at the same time, the publicity of our pages, though there are some of his conclusions we cannot coincide with. However, he must speak for himself; his letter has appeared in the *Nottinghamshire Guardian,* and is as follows:—

"POTATO DISEASE.—HUDSON'S VENTILATING PLAN.

"I HUMBLY beg to call the attention of the horticultural and agricultural gentlemen of England to a subject which I conceive to be of the greatest import-

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ance, namely, the 'potato disease.' I am led to think that the price asked for that esculent, and the scanty supply likely to be experienced at the time of planting, call for a remedy for that devastating disease the 'potato blight.' A great deal has been said upon this subject already, but I suspect that the root of the matter has never been laid bare. I do not think it necessary to enter into a long detail on the subject, but I shall at once prescribe a remedy which I have no doubt, if properly carried out, will have the desired effect, as I have tried it with perfect success. I regret that I cannot make my plan available to the lower classes, otherwise I should have brought it into action long ago; but as the larger growers have been the means, in a great measure, of bringing on this calamity (through their preference of quantity to quality), they ought to be at the expense of getting rid of it. My plan, although simple, may prove rather troublesome and expensive, but will in reality be found the cheapest and safest plan ever adopted, and to those who have the materials at hand, very easy of application. The materials I shall recommend are drain pipes, and where they cannot be obtained the common sough tile will answer the same purpose; and any gentleman wishing to redeem this valuable vegetable from total destruction, will never repent taking my advice or following my instructions. The cost of the pipes would not be serious, as they might be applied to other purposes when the disease was removed. In the first place I recommend the potatoes to be planted in the middle of a field, and by no means under or in the shade of trees. After the land is well worked and perfectly clean, mark out a land, twenty feet wide, across the field, with the plough; then send two men with a line, and let them shovel out a trench just as deep as the plough has gone, or from six to eight inches deep, beginning at one end of the land and coming on to the other, making the trenches three feet apart. Then lay the pipes in the middle of the trench, on the solid bot-

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tom, close to each other, so as to prevent the soil or silt getting into them (the collars will not be wanted on this occasion), and fill the trench with litter or manure of that description, by no means using heavy cow dung,—for this has been partly the cause of the downfall of the potato. Place the sets one foot apart from each other, allowing one foot from the end of the row, so that the tops shall not fall over the ends of the pipes, which should be kept clear. I would prefer whole seed of a moderate size, or strong sets, placed the cut side upwards, and if a little soil were spread over the manure, before placing the sets over the tops of the pipes, it would be all the better, as I consider shallow planting much the safest, and, being three feet apart, it will allow space for earthing up. Admit plenty of sun and air, which is most essential in this case. If two or more lands be required, let there be a space of eighteen inches between the lands, and the space shovelled out a little below the mouth of each pipe, that there may be a free current of air through the pipes, for on that depends the success. Stagnation, saturation, and condensation are the principal causes of the disease. If a good sprinkling of quick lime were applied over the sets, previous to filling up, it would greatly add to their quality and flavour. If these rules are strictly adhered to, I have no doubt that the 'potato disease' will soon become a stranger to the British Isles. If any gentleman will give this remedy a fair trial, it will afford me much satisfaction, and if it should prove successful, it will be a great blessing to my fellow creatures. To the smaller growers I would recommend half the quantity of seed usually planted, shallow planting, and plenty of space between the rows. I should wish my remedy to be styled 'Hudson's Ventilating Plan.' Any further information may be had on application.

"GEORGE HUDSON, GARDENER.

"*Kingston, Notts.*"

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We do not see, in the first place, how the large growers of potatoes have been the cause of the potato disease; for if quantity per acre, rood, or perch, is to be attributed to over-richness of soil, as far as our views of the case go, small growers are more to be blamed than large ones; for in the small gardens round Nottingham, a much greater quantity of potatoes is produced from a given quantity of land, than from the same breadth in a ploughed field, and we hold him to be the largest grower who produces the largest crop. But we differ from Mr. Hudson, inasmuch as we believe the disease is caused by the top being in the first place attacked by a fungus, which afterwards spreads to the root. Crops on rich and retentive land are more likely to suffer than those on dry and porous soils, and there perhaps the drain tile may be of service. But we should have been glad to have found that in making the experiment, Mr. Hudson had planted in the usual manner, a row on each side of that on his ventilating plan: if the two outside rows had been diseased, whilst the centre escaped, then it would have appeared that a step had been taken in the right direction. Again, we do not see why smaller growers should only plant (on a given space, we presume) half the quantity of seed usually planted. He recommends the sets, in the first place, by large growers, to be planted a foot asunder in the rows, and three feet apart; and if a foot asunder in the rows is good in the field, surely it must be so in the garden, and therefore the small grower would want proportionably the same quantity of sets as the large one. Our friend, Hudson, must excuse the dulness of our apprehension; but we trust he will give us a few more particulars,—as to when the experiment was made, whether those in the immediate vicinity were diseased, what was the sort experimented on, whether early or late, when lifted, &c. We should be glad of this information, because the subject is of national importance, and as the experiment should

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be tried in various parts of the country, and on various soils, during the coming season, perhaps the information required may aid in arriving at some good practical result.

ANOTHER REMEDY FOR THE POTATO DISEASE.

[*From the Gardeners' Chronicle.*]

DEEP SOILING *VERSUS* THE DISEASE.

THE following plan of averting the disease was first brought into notice by a carpenter, who occupies a cottage and small plot of ground on this estate. Being desirous of growing celery, but having no land to spare for that purpose, he determined to plant it between some rows of potatoes which he expected would prove a failure. To effect this, he made a trench between the rows, and turning the tops on either side, he cast the soil out of the trench on the top of the potatoes, without regard to that crop, which at the time was in full vigour. The result was, that when the potatoes were taken up, the tubers proved all sound, and that nearly all those which had not been so treated were decayed. This induced him to pursue the same practice the five following years, and the same success has attended his labours. Being a witness of the beneficial results of this mode of culture, I determined to follow the same plan, and I can now say, that after trying it both upon early and late varieties, in the open ground and upon warm borders, I am satisfied that the discovery is most important. It is true that the tops suffer to some extent, but the tubers, with scarcely an exception, remain sound. I hope, however, that all gardeners will make a trial of the plan, by way of experiment. In my case, I left a row or two of each variety on the plot of ground not treated as above, and in every instance, a third part of them were

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unsound, whilst those earthed over in the manner I shall presently describe, were all sound, both in the field and garden. When my crops were being taken up, several gentlemen, members of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and of the Horticultural Society of London, were present, and all were fully satisfied that it is a method to be highly recommended, and of easy application. My plan is to plant on open quarters, well manured; and, as soon as the tubers are full grown, say the last week in June for early sorts, and the 1st of July for later ones, or just before the blight takes the foliage, to turn the latter on one side, and the rows having been previously well earthed up with the hoe, to dig the soil out from between the drills with a spade, and lay it on the ridge, so as to form a deep furrow between each row. Thus circumstanced, the tops continue to grow, and the tubers being now full sized, all remain sound in the ridge of the soil. The disease was never worse here than it was last season, which indeed was the case generally throughout Norfolk.

CHARLES ALBOROUGH,
GARDENER TO G. S. KETT, ESQ.

Brook House, Norwich, Norfolk, Feb. 20.

"WEIGHING-IN" AT A GOOSEBERRY SHOW.

WE are heartily glad to find that during the past season an exhibition of flowers, plants, &c. has proved highly successful at Kidderminster, and that a first-rate horticultural society is now in course of organization. We have had a long list of awards sent us, but as the names of the flowers and plants are not appended, it would be of no interest to our readers. We gladly, however, subjoin the following graphic description of the gooseberry show; and as many of our readers have no conception of the interest excited at the "weighing in," it will give them a pretty good

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idea of the excitement which prevails at these meetings. "By a very wise arrangement, the gooseberry growers are left to settle among themselves which of the berries are entitled to the prizes. This is done by weighing them against each other, in a very delicate pair of scales. The refreshment tent was used for the accommodation of the weighers, and during the operation of weighing, it certainly presented a picturesque and striking appearance. The gooseberry men sat or stood round a large table. One, a grave and sober-looking individual, held a pair of apothecary's scales in his hand, into which the gooseberries were put and carefully balanced. Every man had a small box or basket, containing his fruit, which was carefully enveloped in moss or paper. The countenances of the group were expressive of deep earnestness and anxiety. Each man kept his box or basket close to himself, and when he opened it to get out a gooseberry, he did so with extreme care, lest the extent of his treasures might be seen. One would take out a monster berry, and holding it tenderly by the stalk, would place it in one of the scales, and watch it as it lay there, lest it should come to harm. Then another would fumble in his receptacle for a minute, and bring out a berry, and with the same care place it in the opposite scale. It would perhaps be too light for its opponent; then another search followed, and another berry was produced. 'No go,' the weigher would say solemnly. Somebody else would produce another berry. 'Try him.' Perhaps the new one would outweigh the former, and then the anxiety of the group of weighers would deepen, whilst researches were made for the very largest in the other baskets. Thus the respective merits of Thumper, and Whack-'em, and Tallyho, and Turn'emout, and the other Brobdignagian gooseberries were ascertained. The tent was rather dark, and the light being admitted by a small aperture only, the faces of the weighers were marked with intense light and shade, such as

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we see in the pictures of Rembrandt. A painter skilful enough to transfer the groop to canvass, would have immortalized himself by doing so." Subjoined are the weights:—

RED.	dwt.	gr.
London (prem. prize), J. Waldron	29	14
Twigham, T. Rhodes	29	13
London, T. Jennings	29	13
Wonderful, W. Martin	28	17
YELLOW.		
Catherina, W. Martin	26	0
Warrior, T. Waldron	24	3
Leader, T. Jennings	22	2

GREEN.	dwt.	gr.
Thumper, T. Jennings	23	11
Turnout W. Thomas	23	4
Waldron's seedling, T. Waldron	20	9
WHITE.		
Weazel, T. Waldron	24	18
Tallyho, W. Martin	22	18
Eagle, T. Rhodes	26	6

BLIGHT.—I have for several years been troubled with blight, in the form of a small black fly. It has always attacked a morello cherry tree, on a north wall, and caused the fruit to fall off before it was half ripe. I tried several remedies for their extirpation. Fumigation with tobacco is very difficult to manage well, on account of the smoke escaping too soon; as to tobacco water, it answers very well, but would be found expensive on a large scale. I therefore collected a quantity of elder leaves, on which I poured boiling water, so as to make a decoction; with this I syringed the tree, and it soon caused Mr. Blacky to give way; and, as I happened to take him in time, I managed to save the whole of the crop. The leaves were slightly discoloured by the decoction, but this disappeared after a shower or two of rain. I think this decoction might be advantageously used in many cases; it is also cheap, and easy of application. How thankful should I have been for it in 1847, when my employer's dahlias were attacked by the same troublesome pests.—W.S.M.M.

FUCHSIA SERRATIFOLIA.—This greatly merits a place in the most select collection of greenhouse plants, on account of its habit of blooming at midwinter. Like many other valuable plants, I believe it has been nearly thrown out of cultivation, in con-

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sequence of our ignorance as to its true merits. If grown as a summer plant, like the others of its genus, it would be completely useless, producing nothing but a naked stem, with a few leaves at the top; as to flowers, they would be few and far between; but when grown as a winter-blooming plant, it will well repay a little extra trouble, and meet with many admirers, on account of its beautiful foliage and magnificent flowers. The way I manage it, is to grow a plant well, and then starve it into blooming. In April, I take cuttings, which soon strike in a slight hotbed, and when struck, they are potted into halfpint pots, and returned to the frame, where they continue till they are fairly established, when they are removed to a cold frame, where they remain during the summer, being repotted and encouraged to grow well, until they get into eight-inch pots, in which they are to bloom. When the pots begin to be well filled with roots, they will begin to show bloom, and will be in perfection during November and December. This plant is of so easy management, that the amateur possessed of a small greenhouse, may cultivate it without any difficulty.—W. S.

We are heartily glad to find that a tulip show on a most liberal scale is established at Lancaster. There is, however, one part of the regulations which we certainly cannot agree with, as it will perpetuate the old system of marking before purity. By the advertisement, it will be seen that purity is not necessarily essential. This we regret, as it is retrograding. We believe many florists of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, &c. have made great sacrifices, in discarding flowers which are impure either on the base or the stamens. Should finely-marked stained flowers be allowed to win at Lancaster, they would, in consequence of having turned such out of their collections, not have much chance. We hope the committee will yet "go for perfect purity;" for we

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know there are a great many good and zealous florists in Lancashire who would be sorry to see the progressive improvement in this beautiful flower retarded. We are glad to see open meetings of this kind established, yet we think the rules laid down by the "National," are the best; and though we have no right to dictate, nor shall we take the liberty of so doing, still we think that its propositions should be adopted as far as possible by county or district exhibitions.

We strongly recommended Brown's fumigator, when first brought before the public. Mr. Geach has made an improvement on it. To work the fans, there is some machinery, which is wound up in the way of a bottle jack. When filled with tobacco, and properly lighted, it may be placed in the centre of a house, and set agoing, when the fans will revolve till the chain runs down, and the house is consequently filled with fumes of the tobacco. It will be seen that this is very advantageous, as previously, unless a person were half stifled, he could not be inside the house whilst fumigating, but would probably have a hole through the door, or the front of the edifice, which plan would not so equally distribute the fumes, as when the fumigator was in the centre of the interior.

REVIEWS.

THE GARDENER'S RECORD. Edited by J. T. Neville. *London: Groombridge & Sons.*

WE have duly received the February number of this periodical. The opening paper is on the chrysanthemum, and is followed by one advocating a uniform system of judging florists' flowers, in which judges of florists' flowers are said to prefer size to form. If

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they do, we fancy they cannot know what they are about. We quite agree, however, with the opinion that national shows are fast bringing florists to coincide on those points of perfection which are required; and glad should we be to see a "national" for pansies, pinks, ranunculuses, hollyhocks, &c.; in fact, for all flowers on which a diversity of opinion exists. Then follows a paper on winter gardens, with a plan; a list of show roses; a review of an article on tulips of 1853, in which the Chellastons are said to possess more "quartz" than "gold," &c. We regret to see in the obituary, a notice of the decease of Mr. Davidson, of Peckham, London. We were personally acquainted with him, and can bear witness to the enthusiasm with which he followed his favourite pursuit. Death also has removed two other metropolitan cultivators. Mr. James Dixon, of Acre-lane, Brixton, and Mr. Steane.

THE FLORIST, FRUITIST, AND GARDEN MISCELLANY. By Charles Turner and John Spencer. *Chapman and Hall, London.*

THIS number has two fine plates of *Keynes's Rachel Rawlings* and *Fanny Keynes*, both flowers of great beauty, and indispensable to those growers who intend to compete in the ensuing campaign. The articles are interesting, being, Frame Gardening—Theory of Floriculture—Celery—Descriptive List of Hardy Conifers, &c. This work, good as it was previously, is much improved.

ALISON'S HISTORY OF EUROPE. (People's edition.) *Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh and London.*

THOUGH not a floricultural work, still, as it has been kindly forwarded to us to notice, we do so with much pleasure, feeling assured that the momentous events therein detailed, are of great and imperishable interest. This edition is so cheap as to be within

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the reach of the most humble; and whilst sums of far greater amount are often squandered on fleeting works of fiction, here is an history equalling in importance that of Greece or Rome, and we will venture to say, with far more truth in it than either of them. We have no hesitation in declaring, that every man and youth in Europe ought to read it.

THE SOUTHERN FLORIST AND HORTICULTURAL RECORD.

OUR southern friend has issued another interesting number, comprising much and varied useful information. We have, General Remarks on growing Plants in Pots—Select Lists of Florists' Flowers—On Hybridizing Plants—Pruning Nut and Filbert Trees, &c. A good specimen of a promising periodical.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR MARCH.

THIS will be a busy month in the garden. Sow onions for a main crop. There are so many ways of getting a good crop, some using one sort of manure, others totally different. A rich friable soil is best. Sow in drills, and beat the bed with the back of the spade. Some people sow lettuce amongst onions. They are then drawn off, and transplanted, while small. Brown and White Globe are good, but reference may be made to the chapter on vegetables for the best. Get in the main crop of peas. Do not put them in too thick; nothing is gained by it, and besides, seeds are dear this season. Cauliflower broccoli may be sown, especially Walcheren. Sow again the latter end of the month. Plant potatoes. Observe the two articles in the present number, as to a remedy for the disease. We confess, however, we have not much faith in either. Where the amateur has the convenience of a frame, a nip of celery seed may be sown. Parsley, spinach, curled broccoli and all its class, cabbage for autumn, carrots, leeks, &c. should be got in forthwith.

In the pit or frame for plants, give abundance of air, on fine days. Look over the stock of bedding plants, such as scarlet geraniums, verbenas, calceolarias, &c.; and if the frost has

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lessened the stock, as it has done in too many cases, this season, lose no time in striking more. Where room enough, repot the plants which have stood the winter in more generous soil, "nipping" them, to make them more bushy. Fumigate, on the least appearance of insects, and keep all clean and tidy. A little more water may be given.

In the flower garden and open borders, abundance of work will be found. Divide perennials, trim flowering shrubs, prune and train honeysuckles, clematis, &c.; cut in perpetual and other roses, bearing in mind to leave the wood of hybrid, Chinese, and Gallicas longer than the first-named. Fork over the borders with Winton Park's steel digging fork. Those who try this instrument, will never be without it. The proprietor does not advertise with us, therefore this is no *puff*.

In florists' flowers, carnations may be potted off any time, now, if the plants are stout and hardy. Remove offsets of auriculas, and top-dress the plants. Give more water, as they grow. Plant ranunculuses forthwith. Strike dahlia cuttings (those who this year have any to strike), and make every preparation for the plants out of doors. We anticipate a capital floral campaign, this season.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE PINK SHOW.

At the Spread Eagle Inn, Stamford-street, Ashton-under-Line, July 18, 1853.

Judges.—Mr. J. Dicken, Ashton; Mr. J. Heap, Stakell, near Middleton; and Mr. J. Howard, Rochdale.

Maiden Pan.—Buckley's Glory, Susanna, and Mary, J. Horrocks.

Silver Cup.—1. Huntsman, Susanna, and Miss Jessop, J. Lancashire. 2. Huntsman, Sturge, and Miss Jessop, J. Leigh. 3. Huntsman, Sturge, and Mary, E. Clegg. 4. Huntsman, Sturge, and Snowball, J. Beswick. 5. Huntsman, Sturge, and Beauty of Blackburn, S. Raynor. 6. Huntsman, Susanna, and Mary, T. Lancashire, 7. Huntsman, Susanna, and Mary, J. Wild. 8. Beauty of Rochdale, Susanna, and Miss Jessop, T. Mellor.

Purple-laced.

1 Beauty of Rochdale, T. Lancashire
2 Huntsman, J. Lancashire
3 Glory, ditto
4 Greensides, E Clegg
5 Mango, J. Beswick
6 Seedling, R. Norris
7 Ditto, ditto
8 Flying Dutchman, E. Clegg

Red-laced.

1 Seedling, J. Beswick
2 Sturge, ditto
3 Richard Cobden, R. Norris
4 Susanna, T. Mellor
5 Seedling, J. Beswick
6 Merry Monarch, ditto
7 Little Wonder, J. Wild
8 Adam Smith, J. Grundy

Black and White.

1 Beauty of Blackburn, R. Hope
2 Mary, S. Raynor
3 Miss Jessop, T. Mellor
4 Snowball, J. Beswick
5 Beauty of Home, T. Lancashire
6 Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, S. Raynor
7 Lady Boldhaughton, J. Leigh
8 Blackeyed Susan, R. Hope

Extra Prizes.—A copper tea kettle, given by Mr. G. Greaves, of Stockport, for the best bloom of Stockwell, to J. Bamford. **A copper tea kettle, given by Mr. S. Bromley, for the be** Jane, to J. Knott, Gorton.

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

JOTTINGS ON FLOWERS AND PLANTS,

MADE DURING A COMMERCIAL TOUR, IN THE SUMMER OF 1853.

BY R. S.

AGREEABLY with your request, I send you a few more jottings, made during the summer and autumn of last year, and which I hope may prove both useful and interesting to your numerous readers. I was particularly struck with the rapid advance made in that beautiful and stately, though by some considered old fashioned, flower, the hollyhock. I find, however, that they are all of home produce. Truly I had two or three collections came under my observation, that were from the Continent, but they wanted the form; their only point was their singular and novel colours, but a more ragged lot I never saw. Amongst novelties of this country, there is Hooper's Mrs. Hooper, a most attractive and beautiful thing, white, with the lower part of the petals strongly marked with reddish chestnut, a fine contrast. Two or three Scotch flowers also particularly struck me as being great acquisitions. Richard Cobden, a very finely formed light chocolate, a perfect model, good guard petals, and fine centre. Marquis of Tweedale, a rich and glowing flower, a fine scarlet. Sir David Dundas, also a clipper in outline, and of a rich dark marone. And last, though not least, among the varieties from the north, Uncle Tom, as black and shining as a well fed African. This variety will, if I am not much mistaken, give most of the "darkies" the go-by. Then there were some splendid things, raised by those successful growers, Messrs. Bircham, Paul, Bragg, Chater, Parsons, &c. In one metropolitan collection which I visited, I certainly was

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delighted with the galaxy of beauty which these truly splendid flowers presented. Ranged on each side a long walk, the tall-growing varieties behind, with those of lower stature in front, the colours well contrasted, and all in the most luxuriant health, they formed one of the most beautiful *coups d'œil* it had ever been my fortune to witness. There was Lizzy, a delicate pink, of splendid form, of large size, and capital spike. Yellow Model, a fine flower, of a rather scarce colour, for in all my journeyings, I find it the most rare. Beauty of Cheshunt, a most attractive sort, a first-rate variety, inclining to deep rose, with a splendid spike. I particularly noticed another colour, good ones in the class being few, and that was Arantia superbum, in the style of Napoleon (not Pow's), a stout bold scarlet and orange flower, a colour much wanted, and a move in the right direction. Lady Clark, a splendid rose, of extra size and form, and now a cheap flower. This is within the most limited means. It is also known as Queen of England, but I believe the first designation is the proper one. Napoleon (Pow) is a very distinct and beautiful thing. I have seen it recommended in your pages, but it will bear repeating. Purple ground, with white margin, a well filled high centre, a really capital sort to seed from. There were others of equal merit with the preceding. Globe White, for instance, is capital in its class, of compact habit and extra form. Susanna, another light one, but more of a creamy character, is a good sort for exhibition. Joan of Arc, peach bloom, a beautiful and pretty sort. Poupre de Tyr, a rich and good purple. I have others amongst my "mems," but these were particularly good, in more than half-a-dozen collections.

I shall confine myself to hardy plants this time, hoping to be able to send you a notice of some first-rate bedding things, for your May number.

Antirrhinums are also advancing, and no wonder, when they seed so freely, though the really great

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improvements were not as one in a thousand. Among striped ones, Perfection was a finely-marked variety, pink, on white. Advancer, a large and rich dark crimson, first-rate for massing. Constance, white, the lips being crimson, blotched with white, was distinct, and I thought very novel. Lord Palmerston, something in the same style. These were novel and good. In delphiniums, I did not see much that was fresh. Magnifica was worthy of its name. It was well done, and, to my fancy, one of the best. Beauty of Charonne I did not think so good as Hendersonii, and amongst several Continental sorts I saw nothing to particularize. I am strongly of opinion that this class of flowers might, by careful seeding, be much improved; and no perennial is more worthy, or would pay better for the attention. In phloxes, I saw much to admire. Etoile des Belges is very good, a pure white, with deep pink centre, of good habit, and blooming freely. Madame Arnot de Lisle is also of good form and fine amongst the numerous white varieties. In selfs, Colonel Dundas stands pre-eminent, being a deep rosy purple, distinct, and of fine form. Your Nottingham sort, Spencerii, was in twenty different places, and fine in all. Everybody admires it for its nice dwarf habit. Madame Celesté I saw only in one collection. It took my fancy much. White, with crimson centre. There are so many good flowers named after Annie Salter, that I had almost forgotten a phlox which bears that designation. It is conspicuous for its large heads of flowers, and its delicate pink, with darker eye. As for pansies, some of the new sorts are beautiful in the extreme. Scotch flowers, as far as I could see, last season, had the pre-eminence. Selfs were particularly good, though I cannot bring myself to think that they should have a lighter colour—a cloud, if I may so call it—round the eye; it gives an indistinctness, a mistiness, that I certainly do not like. Ophirie is a splendid yellow self, amazingly stout, showing itself well on the plant. I entertain a strong opinion that this was the best of its colour I saw last year.

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One, I was told, was "Uncle Tom's Cabin."—(Oh, dear!)—This was a dark chocolate, and certainly very fine; but why not call it Salisbury Cathedral? Now Shylock was a beautiful flower, and certainly much better named. It was a rich plum colour, and of fine size and substance. Amongst yellow ground and belted flowers, Hale's Monarch was one of the very best. A noble sort. This I have seen again, this spring, quite in first-rate character. It is in the Duke of Norfolk style, and should be, most truly, in every select collection. Then there was Charles Turner, by the same raiser, an amazingly attractive sort, the belting being rich bronze. It was quite first-rate. Lady Dundas was a capital and pleasing variety, the ground colour brilliant, encircled with a broad belt of deep bronzy purple, distinct, and will make a fine show variety. In purple belted flowers, there was Catherine Hayes, as clear and beautiful as could be. Marchioness of Bath, one of the very best. I noticed this as plentiful, and in more than one instance, massed together, forming beds of flowers of the most lively and charming description. Minerva has a belt of a peculiar bluish shade, distinct and good, and will, from all appearance, make a fine show flower, contrasting, as it will do, in a stand. National was fine in most places. The belting is not so broad as in many varieties, but extremely well laid on. One of the most attractive of its class. With various growers, I observed numerous fancy tortoiseshell-looking sorts. I very much fear that these will, to a certain extent, act prejudicially to the finer varieties, which are now arrived at so great perfection,—the bee will probably inoculate them.

There is yet another class of flowers which appeared amazingly attractive. I allude to the pentstemons. The freedom with which they are reproduced from seed has latterly brought forward several very fine varieties. I thought P. purpurea-magnifica a great improvement. The spikes are large, flowers a good size, colour deep purplish crimson. P. Kingii was also fine, contrasting well with the scarlet sorts.

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The spikes of flowers of this variety are very large, and in colour they are intermediate between rose and violet. It strikes me this would be a fine sort for hybridizing. The bluish purple varieties are now numerous and extremely interesting. P. Kellermanii is a good one of this colour, and so is P. grandis, and P. intermedia is perhaps the best of all of them. P. speciosa was very beautiful in several places, but it was reported to be shortlived and difficult to keep. On the whole, I think this tribe is fast improving, and certainly few plants are more suitable for making a great display in the flower garden.

I must now, I think, bring my gossip to a close, though in doing so, I would note a few Chinese pæonies. These have been rapidly increased during the few past years, though in some instances I thought there was too much sameness in the flowers to be separately named. Amongst the most distinct, was P. rosea plenissima superba, certainly very effective, being bright rose outer petals, with a salmon-coloured centre. P. amabilis grandiflora, creamy white, tinted with pink. P. Duchess d'Orleans. This fine sort has deep rose guard petals, with a full blush centre. most of the tribe are powerfully fragrant; and in several nurseries I found that experiments were in progress for fertilizing the moutan, or tree pæony, with farina from the sorts above named, with every prospect of success. This, Mr. Editor, I am sure you will agree with me, will be a fine floral discovery. I am promised the results, which I will forward to you in due time.

CAUSE OF MILDEW ON THE VINE, PEACH, AND POTATO.

Amongst the many varied, useful, and interesting articles that issue each successive month through your esteemed little work, there are none that I have read

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with more interest than the (so called) cure for the potato disease; and, as you say, all hints that will be at all likely to stay this dreadful calamity will be very acceptable to the public at large, I fully concur with Mr. Hudson's ideas as to the cause of the disease or blight, or, as an eminent writer on horticulture, in the *Nottinghamshire Guardian*, terms it, the potato mildew. Now, if we peruse the writings of other very eminent horticulturists, when treating on blight, or mildew, either on the vine or on any other subject, we find that they almost invariably state the cause to lie at the root of the subject treated on. And what is their remedy? They say, examine your border,—whether it be a vine border, or a peach border, or any other border, no matter,—there you will find the root of the evil. What is the result? A cold and wet bottom. Hence stagnation and saturated soil,—very improper food for an already disordered stomach, that is, the roots, fibres, and sponglets of a sickly plant. But this is not the end of the evil; the already disordered sponglets being obliged to be the recipients of improper nourishment, put the whole subject in a very unhealthy condition. What a beautiful analogy between the animal and vegetable kingdom I perceive here: the effect of an unhealthy action of the stomach of the vegetable producing, as it does, to use a medical term, ulcerated limbs and tuberculated lungs or leaves, in the shape of mildew, and in the case of the animal creation, we are unfortunate enough to be well acquainted with this effect, in the shape of consumption and premature decline. But to the subject, our theme is vegetables. What is the remedy? Certainly we have the advantage of the medical practitioner, for we can make application to the lungs of vegetables, in the shape of sulphur, which sometimes proves successful for one season; but as soon as the next season comes, our formidable enemy appears again, aye, stronger than ever; because we have not touched the root of the mischief. Now for the remedy. Light and

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porous soils, properly drained, not only for the drains to come out at the side of the border, but also at the top, and the ends, and even in the middle, and the mouths of all these drains to be left open, so that the border will not only be drained, but aerated. This is the substance of volumes that have been written by practical horticulturists, to battle against the blight, or mildew, on all such subjects as pines, vines, peaches, &c.; and while this system of aerating, or ventilating borders answers so satisfactorily for these plants, why not also for the potato border?

A. B.

March 18, 1854.

HUDSON'S VENTILATING PLAN.

ACCORDING to your request, I send a few observations on my ventilating plan. In the first place, I agree with you that any man who produces an overcrop of potatoes, by means of stimulating manure, may be considered guilty of destroying the constitution of the potato. I suppose you will admit that the constitution of the potato is very much impaired, and how do you account for it? I contend that it is through bad management, and this often happens with the large growers, for it does not often occur that a poor man has the chance of using too much manure; but he is guilty of as great a crime in planting two rows where he should plant but one, and the same with the number in the rows. I have seen the evil coming on years ago, therefore it does not surprise me at all. If I could use a pen as well as a pruning knife, I should have said something before this, and, like some of my neighbours, I hoped the disease would leave us as it found us, but I find it is too deep grounded. Although my plan was tried but on a small scale, I feel confident it is the only

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sure preventive of this dreadful disease the potato blight. You seem to contend that the top is first struck by a fungus. I contend that if the top is struck by a fungus, it is after the disease, and *not* before. Did you ever know a fungus feed on any plant while in a healthy state? The plant must first be rendered sickly, and this sickness must be caused from the root, *not* from the top; for as long as the root is right, the top will not go sadly wrong. Then you will ask, what causes the root to get wrong? I say, saturation, stagnation, and condensation. What then is the remedy for these three evils? I say ventilation. My ventilating plan is more adapted for late than early sorts, as the early sorts are generally ripe before the danger comes on, and all sorts should be lifted as soon as ripe. I send you a few of my favourites, Late Pink Eyes. Give them plenty of room. They are the best late sort I have. You can report on them in the autumn. The poor men are allowed pipe tiles, to try my plan in their allotment grounds. I would this might be universal. I hope it will be tried freely in all parts, as I have no doubt of the result.

G. H.

Kingstone, March 18.

[Our friend, Hudson, must excuse us still thinking that the blight first attacks the tops. No doubt, from certain causes, there is a predisposition in some potatoes to take it more than in others, in the same way that some persons, from a peculiar state of body, are more likely to be attacked by cholera than their neighbours of more regular habits. We entertain no doubt that the energy of the potato has been much decreased, but how does Mr. Hudson account for potatoes (seedlings) which have been taken every care of, and planted on poor land, being struck with the disease as bad as older varieties? It cannot be, we imagine, because their constitution was injured.]

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APPLES OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES.

A FRIEND has reminded us that we ought to complete this list, and we will endeavour to do so.

The Golden Pippin is grown, but not extensively, usually as dwarf plants, worked or grafted on the paradise stock. Its brisk saccharine flavour is much appreciated, and as it does not attain a large size, it is much in request in gentlemen's gardens, as a dessert fruit. It is never seen, however, in orchards, being extremely susceptible of canker. It is not a sort we should recommend to be planted for profit.

Golden Pippin (Knight).—Also known as the *Downton*. Formerly this was planted, owing to its extreme productiveness, but of late years it has lost favour in this part of the world. It is smaller than the preceding variety, with a brisk acid flavour. It bears abundantly, but the fruit is very apt to crack, and fall off. It will not sell in the market, except for a miserable price, and the trees hereabouts have had their heads cut off, and been regrafted.

Golden Pippin (Garret).—Like the preceding one, was much planted thirty years ago. When young, the tree bears well, and the fruit is a handsome medium-sized apple, bright orange yellow. It, however, speedily becomes mealy, after being gathered, and the tree, as it ages, is apt to canker.

Greenup's Pippin.—This is a very fine sort, comes early into bearing, has a pendulous character, and makes a profusion of wood. It bears regularly and well, but the fruit does not keep after Christmas. It is a first-rate market apple, being very handsome, cream colour on one side, and rich scarlet on the other, with a network of russet overspreading various parts of the fruit.

Gravenstein.—Not so much grown as it ought to be. Handsome, large, and of good quality. It is rather straggling in its habit, but from the circumstance of being a large table fruit, as well as excellent for the kitchen, it deserves a place in every garden and orchard.

Hawthornden.—This is an old favourite, a most abundant bearer, and often extremely handsome. It is known in some localities as the *White Apple*, from its delicate appearance. The skin is remarkably thin, and it bakes well. All this is so far good, but its faults are a great disposition to canker, and, from the thinness of its skin, it easily bruises, and therefore is not well adapted for a market fruit.

Juneating is a favourite eating apple, early, yellow, and of a peculiarly brisk and pleasant flavour. It bears early, and is well adapted for bushes or pyramids, on the paradise stock.

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Keddleston Pippin.—Also an eating apple, of first-rate excellence. The tree does not attain a large size, is weak in its branches, and rather pendulous in character. It keeps well, and is a nice dessert fruit. It is conical in form, yellow, and comes nearest to the old Golden Pippin of anything we know.

Margil.—Not so much grown now as formerly, though it certainly deserves a place in every garden where fine-flavoured apples are desirable. Its appearance is rather homely, and as there are now many handsome good sorts, those which are not so attractive are comparatively neglected.

[To be continued.]

PROPAGATION.

No. II.

THE ROSE.

We purpose now to have a little gossip about the propagation of this very favourite flower. They are usually increased by layers, cuttings, buds, and grafts. The first is generally adopted for obtaining dwarf moss, hybrid Chinese, and French roses, on their own roots. In nurseries, the plants from which these are raised are called "stools," and are cut down, in order that they may emit young straight shoots. In June or July, when they have attained sufficient hardness, the ground is forked up round the stool, and a certain portion of sharp sand mixed with it; the shoots are then stripped of their leaves about half way up, a hole is scraped with the hand, or small hoe, the nearer the stool the better, and the shoot is bent into it, previous to cutting, in order that the proper place for performing that operation may be ascertained, because it is better for the layers to stand as erect as possible, when finished. The shoot is taken in the left hand, the forefinger extending under it to the bud at which the gash or tongue is to be made; with

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a sharp budding or other thin-bladed knife, a cut must be made on the upper side, immediately below a bud, drawing the knife carefully up the centre of the shoot, in order to prevent its joining together again; a slight twist is given to the upper part of the shoot, which causes the tongue to lie over the side, and when covered with soil, effectually prevents it from reuniting. Sometimes it will happen, from making the tongue too thin, that it will rot, and therefore care must be taken that by cutting at first as if the shoot was to be cut across, by a dextrous twist of the blade, the stem is fairly divided, and a good thick tongue made. We recollect a plan of layering roses being described in the *Gardeners' Magazine*, where, instead of tonguing the shoot as above described, the knife was merely run through it, making a slit about an inch and a half long, in which a piece of wood, moss, or a small pebble was inserted, to keep the wound open, on each side of which the fibres were said to be emitted very freely. We gave this plan a fair trial, but consider it far less certain of producing well-rooted plants than the other.

As for cuttings, it is well known to most people who have rose trees, that certain sorts strike freely, and great is the success of many an old lady, in this department, who, without much knowledge as to the time of putting the cuttings in, and with only the accessories of a few cracked tumblers, manages to strike them to admiration. The varieties which are successfully treated this way, are the Chinese, the tea-scented, noisette, boursault, Bourbon, and hybrid perpetual. Large growers will often put the cuttings separately, and place on bottom heat, having all the convenience of hot water pipes, &c. But as we do not write for parties of this description, and as we want to give a certain and unexpensive mode, we will describe a simple and economic plan. Get a few sods, and make a pit of any size, and about two feet deep, fill it the depth of one foot with brick

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ends, and lay thin turves, grass downwards, so as to prevent the coarse river sand, or washings of sandy soil, which will frequently be found by road sides, from running among the broken bricks, which thus form a capital drainage, so essential to success in striking cuttings. On the top of this inverted turf, six inches of sand may be placed, and beaten moderately firm, and thus will a bed be made for the reception of cuttings. If turves are not handy, a packing case will be a good substitute, but it must be banked outside with the garden soil; or, if the amateur is in but a small way, an old tea chest would form a good thing for the purpose. A hole might be dug in the ground, well drained, and filled with sand, in the same way, but then stooping is not very agreeable to elderly people, and it is this class, who, when retired from active life, form the great body of our amateur florists. We will then suppose that the beds are made in either case, as we have proposed. If the cuttings are taken off in March or April, the thinnest wood, with a heel to it, and about two inches long, is the best. A bell glass may be pressed on the sand, and within the circle thus made the cuttings may be firmly inserted, and the glass put over them. Or in the autumn, when the young wood is firm, the shoots may be taken off with a heel, and inserted as before. These are well rooted by the spring, when they may be potted off, and make beautiful plants during the summer.

On these beds of sand almost anything may be propagated. The great point to be attained is to understand the proper state or ripeness of the wood. Here may be struck cuttings of evergreens, such as cypresses, junipers, &c.; as also fuchsias, phloxes, wallflowers, dianthi, &c.; for though bottom heat may in some instances aid in obtaining plants quicker, this is most certainly the surest, and what every one may try.

[To be continued.]

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NEW PLANTS.

There is a very beautiful new Chinese primrose, called *Magnum Bonum*, now offered for sale by Messrs. Henderson & Son, of the Wellington Nursery. When their traveller called on us, during the autumn, we had an opportunity of inspecting a finely executed drawing of it. It is purplish crimson, with a large bold truss of flowers; the petals are fringed, and the habit of the plant is extremely robust. We understand that seedlings have come correct for several generations, but we cannot help anticipating that as this is an improvement on existing varieties, from some of its progeny we may still attain a higher point of perfection. It is now a worthy compeer of the double white and purple Chinese primroses, which render our greenhouses so attractive.

May's Paragon Cabbage.—We well know that the holders of small gardens want as much produce as possible from a limited space, and large-sized early cabbage always excites much pride and competition. Waite's King and Enfield Market cabbages are early and large, but here we have another candidate for public favour. Mr. May gives the following description of it:—It has been known to attain the large size of twenty-eight pounds, is beautifully green, and as tender as asparagus. The flavour is very superior. It is very dwarf in habit, and is guaranteed to be the finest cabbage in existence.

The Meudon Strawberry.—A gentleman, who went to France, to observe the manner of growing pines, at Meudon, has been the means of introducing this valuable strawberry to the amateurs of this country. He gives the following description of it, in a communication to the editor of the *Gardeners'*

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Chronicle:—On seeing it, he inquired of the gardener what it was, who told him it was one of his own raising; and observing how abundantly it bore, in small six-inch pots, and how beautiful it looked, he induced him to let him have one plant, to bring with him to England. The fruit is as large as Keen's Seedling, but conical, and of a light red, solid, juicy, and sweet, with a brisk flavour, excellent for dessert and preserving, and an abundant bearer under all treatments. Our readers will thus perceive that it will be a great acquisition.

We strongly recommended Chrysanthemum Hendersonii, last season, as a good bedding plant, and our readers who purchased it, will, we think, have been pleased with it. We have now to introduce another to their notice, which combines the quality of a finely-formed flower with great earliness of blooming; in fact, the month of August is the period at which this fine dwarf bedding variety is in full flower. It is called *Annie Henderson*, and we are sure that eminent firm would not so name it unless it were of sterling worth. It is a beautiful bright canary colour, with well-formed flowers, dwarf in habit, and will make a great addition to other bedding plants, by being pegged down and stopped early in the season, thus inducing a great number of laterals, which flower profusely till winter sets in.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

LANCASTER TULIP SHOW.—We are happy to find that there are no conditions laid down as to who shall exhibit and who shall not. The show is to all intents and purposes an open one, conducted, we

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believe, on the principles hitherto adopted by the National; and we are also most happy to inform intending exhibiters that "*pure flowers are indispensable.*" The honorary secretary, Mr. T. D. Townley, has written us to that effect. This was the only drawback on its certain prosperity. We shall be most happy to receive the subscriptions of our midland florist friends, to forward with our own.

National Carnation and Picotee Society, Derby.—We recommend all our friends who grow carnations to apply for a schedule forthwith. It is one of the most liberal we have yet seen, and does much credit to the executive. A grand feature, we make no doubt, will be the hollyhocks, and we anticipate a meeting of no ordinary character.

The National Tulip Show.—"Better late than never," is an adage as old as the hills. We hope the schedule will be out forthwith. After the show is transferred to other hands, as from Nottingham to London, and accepted, of course the Nottingham florists have nothing to do with the carrying of it out. At the eleventh hour, we have heard nothing, still we hope and trust that it will be a first-rate affair. If it do not take place, all the golden dreams of "a certain old friend of ours," with those of many others, who anticipated a visit to the metropolis, to give or take a floricultural thrashing, will end in smoke.—[This we hope will answer some fifty letters.]

The Manchester and South Lancashire Tulip Society.—We have no doubt this will be a first-rate meeting. We are sorry that it is not an open one. We suppose the pound subscription is for the tulip shows at both places, and not, as one or two of our friends imagine, "an extra," on being elected a member. However, be this as it may, we do not know that anybody has any business with the financial arrangements of a society. The members ought best

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to know their own affairs. At all events, we wish our Manchester friends, north and south, all the success their exertions in the cause of floriculture most assuredly deserve.

ON PRESERVING SEEDS FROM BIRDS.

[*From the Florist.*]

As the time of the year has now arrived for sowing seeds, it may be of some importance to know how to preserve them from being destroyed by chaffinches, greenfinches, &c., as soon as they make their appearance above the ground.

All gardeners know the difficulty of keeping these little intruders at a respectful distance from their seed-beds in spring. My plan of doing so is simple but effectual: with me it is no new discovery, having practised it with the greatest success for these last six years. I have tried it with vegetable seeds of all kinds that birds will attack. I prepare my seeds before sowing, and when that is done, I can follow any other part of my business without any further care, as far as birds are concerned. My plan is this: I have a flower-pan, a new painter's brush that has never been used for any other purpose, a bottle of turpentine, and a quantity of red lead; these are all kept together in a small basket, ready for use at any time when they are required. The seed-beds being ready, as much seed is put into the flower-pan as is required to be sown on each separate bed; a little turpentine is then poured on, and the red lead added; it is then well worked round the pan with the painter's brush until every seed has become thoroughly coated. Care should be taken in the first instance not to use too much turpentine, as it takes more lead than is necessary to dry it up again, in order to get the seeds well separated before they are sown. When seeds are well coated as above, the rain never washes it off,

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and it does not destroy the vitality of the seeds in the least. I know the red lead was recommended for the same purpose some years ago; but used with water alone, I found it could not be depended upon. I have long known that birds do not like the smell of turpentine, but to test this knowledge I used two sorts of sawdust for the same purpose; one sort was from foreign deals, which contained a large portion of turpentine, the other was from elm, and of course contained none: the birds did not like the former, but the last named was not the least protection, as I have often seen them basking in it on a sunny day. This is the third year I have tried it with autumn-sown peas as a protection against mice; they have once or twice tried a row, but that trial, in all probability, cost them their lives. Of the peas I sowed last autumn, not one has been touched, though I know that there are mice in the garden.

J. HOLLAND.

Taplow Lodge.

WINDOW GARDENING.

THERE are many who have not the convenience of a greenhouse, who are, nevertheless, fond of flowers, who spend considerable sums yearly in purchasing plants, and bestow a great deal of pains in attending to them. It is not to be denied, too, that, after all their endeavours, their plants frequently look sickly and finally die. The blame is often laid at the door of the florist who supplied them, for not giving healthy plants, when in almost every instance the fault lies with the buyers. The plants, it is true, which come into the market have generally been under a high state of cultivation. They have been regularly watered, potted in soil according to their habits, and grown in pots according to their size. The heat, air, and light have all been arranged and regulated as the utmost skill and experience could

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suggest. The transition from all this regularity to the tender mercies of the purchaser is soon felt. Drowning or starving, neglecting altogether, is no uncommon fate. The pots are taken home, put into pans or saucers, deluged with water, and the water left in the saucers, or they are set in some conspicuous place, and left to their fate. In the first case, the leaves turn yellow and drop, the flowers fall, and in a very short time all that can be seen of them is their naked stems, with little tufts of green on the tops or points of the shoots, which a few days before were in perfection; in the latter case, the plants die with all the leaves and bloom upon them. Nearly all the evils attending plants grown in windows are to be traced to these two causes. I will therefore attempt to lay down a few general rules, which, if properly attended to, will do away with nearly all the complaints under this head. 1st. Never water but when the plants actually want it. That is easily known by feeling the soil with the finger, or giving the pot a rap on the sides with the knuckles. While it is moist no water is needed; when it feels dry, then water—which latter will not be oftener than three times a-week in autumn and winter, and every day in spring and summer—giving it copiously every time, and allowing it to run away entirely from the plant, so that the pots may never stand in it. The water used should be either rain or river water. If necessarily from the pump or spring, it ought to stand in the air a day or two before using. 2nd. Give plenty of air at every possible opportunity, when the weather is mild, either by having the window up, or by removing the plants outside. If, in warm weather, this be done under a bright sun, the pots will have to be shaded, as the sun on the sides of the pots would prove injurious to the young roots, and would greatly injure the plant; and if in bloom and exposed to the sun, the flowers would soon fade and drop. 3d. Keep the rooms where the plants are of as uniform a temperature as possible, and the plants themselves as near

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the window as convenient, except in severe weather, when they are better near the middle of the room during the night. 4th Examine them occasionally, to see if the pots are full of roots. If this is the case, and the plants are worth it, get some good soil, and shift them into pots a size larger; or if not shifted, be more careful in supplying water, as they will require more when in this state. In summer, water them frequently over the foliage, but not except they also need it at the root as well. These may be adopted as very general rules, though more absolutely necessary for some plants than others, but very good for all. There is a good deal to be considered in buying plants, in making the proper choice; for, however gratifying it may be to have those which look best in full bloom, it is most satisfactory to have those which last longest in perfection, especially those which have a succession of bloom, and whose foliage is interesting when the bloom is gone. This rule may be deviated from in behalf of tulips, crocuses, hyacinths, and other bulbs, which are valuable when little else is in flower. These will also bloom in the darkest streets of our cities. They ought to be purchased either in the beginning of this month, when the roots are dry for planting yourselves, or in pots when they are beginning to grow; for if delayed till they are in bloom, nine-tenths of their value is lost, because they are interesting in every stage of their growth, from the first formation of the leaves to the perfection of the flower. Every day of development has its charm; and therefore they ought to be possessed from the first. If in pots, all these require a plentiful supply of water when in a growing state; and if kept cool after showing flower, their season of blooming is prolonged.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

COCKROACHES.—Several correspondents having asked for a remedy for these insects, we give the following, by Mr. J. A. Watson, Exotic Nursery, King's-

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road, Chelsea:—About six weeks ago, our orchid house was infested with cockroaches to such a degree, that sometimes, in the course of one night, large plants were denuded of their roots, and to kill these pests the following scheme was had recourse to. Three-pennyworth of arsenic was mixed with half-a-pound of melted tallow, and in this a quantity of small birch twigs were dipped five or six times, till they became coated. These were then stuck among the plants, and made to hang down in the way that Orchid roots do. The cockroaches taking the tallowed twigs for roots—ate their fill, and death was the consequence. So effectually has this answered, that now there is not a cockroach, nor the effects of one to be seen, and the plants are again making beautiful roots. I took great care not to let any of the poison touch the plants, experience having taught me that, if any poisonous substance is brought in contact with the tender parts of the plant, those parts die. A good sized potato, with its centre cut out, is a first-rate trap for them, and answers at the same time as a trap for small shell-snails, earwigs and woodlice. It should be placed with the hollow side downwards, so as to form a sort of hiding place. I convinced one of the young men here of the utility of having a few of these simple traps in an orchid house, by showing him one evening, two large brown snails and a cockroach making a comfortable meal off an Ash-Kidney, and yesterday morning I showed the same person fourteen woodlice in one potato.

WINTERING ANTIRRHINUMS.—I have found the following plan of wintering these preferable to any other mode I have hitherto adopted; it not only preserves them from the effects of damp, to which they are so very liable in winter, but it protects them from slugs. I strike the cuttings in July and August, under cap-glasses, on a cold cutting bed; and when rooted I pot them into well-drained three-inch pots, using mould of ordinary quality. I put four and six

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plants in each pot, the later the cuttings are rooted the more plants I put into a pot, and increase the drainage in the same proportion; my reason for doing this is to get the pots as full of roots as possible before the winter sets in, as, the less mould there is about them not penetrated by roots the better. The frame in which they are wintered is raised by means of a brick at each corner; in this way a plentiful supply of air is secured, which contributes greatly to their preservation; and to still further promote this desirable object, as well as keep slugs from the plants, I place each store pot on an inverted pot of the same size. I do not water during winter when the weather is wet, or close and damp, for three weeks and a month together, and then the morning of a fine day is chosen for the operation. I keep the lights off day and night in dry weather. If sparingly watered and sheltered from rain, they stand the sharpest frosts without injury.—R. MILES, *Kingsdown.—Gardeners' Chronicle.*

A NEW VEGETABLE.—We may be laughed at, but that is not of much consequence, we are too old to care about it, and besides, we are quite sure we have applied the roots of one of our commonest weeds to a very good purpose, in fact. we have eaten it with very considerable relish. At our house, at this time of the year, there is usually a brewing of what is termed "herb beer," for the younger part of the community. We do not know the exact quantity of nettle tops, ground ivy (gill), and goose grass (heriff), to which is added a good portion of dandelion roots, &c. These, after having been boiled, are thrown away, the decoction is fermented with a little yeast. and capital lively stuff it is. This year, some of the dandelion roots were as large as small parsneps, and as they were boiled extremely tender, it was determined to taste them, and see what they were like. Accordingly they were mashed, a small quantity of cold butter added, with salt and pepper, and served

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up like turnips, and they were so like the globe artichoke in flavour, that positively, had we not known what they were, we should have declared we were eating that vegetable. Now this is what most people can try, and whilst they are using a substitute for the potato, of well known wholesome character, they are eradicating a noxious weed from their gardens. We shall be glad to hear from any of our correspondents who may try them.

USES TO WHICH SEAKALE POTS MAY BE APPLIED IN SUMMER.—A very desirable effect may be obtained in the summer months by means of plants grown in large seakale pots. My pots are fourteen inches deep and fourteen inches wide, inside measure; when disengaged from the process of winter forcing, I have them washed and dried, and afterwards apply to them a coat of stone-coloured paint by way of contrast with the green lawn. This painting may be repeated annually with little trouble or expense. I then select from my winter's store plants of one, two, or three years' growth, as may be convenient, and plant them in the pots. The following are the sorts of plants I employ, viz.: fuchsias, heliotropes, brugmansias, rhododendrons, azaleas, pelargoniums, hydrangeas, salvias, or other showy flowering plants. In preparing the pots for the reception of the plants, I place the cover in the inside, and over it a little drainage, then a thin layer of turf, and upon that the soil in which I plant my specimen. I also at the same time plant small trailers, to ornament the sides of the pots. These ars planted close to the edge, four or five dissimilar plants in each pot. For this purpose the following are suitable, viz.: nemophilas, anagallis, verbenas, nolanas, mesembryanthemums, violets, mignonette, Clintonia pulchella, tropæolums, thunbergias, mimulus, and lobelias. A little green moss placed over the soil adds neatness and a finish to the whole. The pots are placed on blocks of wood or stone—the latter is the best. These specimens thus prepared

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are placed on the lawn or pleasure-ground, by the sides of large evergreens, in corners and in windings of walks, &c., and have a fine effect even late in the season.—C. GAIGER.—*Gardeners' Chronicle.*

THE POTATO DISEASE.—I have read Mr. Hudson's plan for the cure of the potato evil or disease, and, like you, am doubtful about its success; however, every one may have his nostrum, and some one at length may chance to hit the nail on the head, and drive it home. In my opinion, and I believe many others are of the same, the potato disease is atmospheric, and commences when the stem has come to that state of its growth which may be termed woody, or when the outside skin or bark becomes full grown and ready to change into a stagnant state. The attack is then sometimes suddenly on this same outside skin, and in a few hours, if the weather suits, it mortifies and becomes a rotten brown, spreading rapidly upwards and downwards, carrying its poisonous effects through both stem and root, the result of which we all know too well. Now, to prevent the attack of this venom, we only have to lay the stem down and cover it with soil, before the disease commences, which is generally at the beginning of July, when the stems have arrived at the above woody state. I believe the practice of covering has been successful in Scotland, and think it worth trying here, if anyone choose. The rows might be planted two together, and a space left for throwing soil each way, leaving only the tops of the stems, or the green wood out. A row of celery or Scotch cabbage may be planted in the trench.—ZERO.

PLANTING POTATOES IN HILLOCKS.—In March, 1842, I planted separately seven potatoes of the De Rohan sort and three of the Phillips's Blues, one yard apart each way. The soil, as they advanced in growth, was raised at different times until it formed a hillock. I took them up about the middle of

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October; from one root of Phillips's I had eighty-nine potatoes, which weighed, when free from dirt, 28lbs., several of the potatoes being more than 2lbs. each. From one root of the De Rohan I had seventy-five, weighing 19lbs., one being 3½lbs.; the remainder of the crop was great in proportion; they were grown on an old worn-out asparagus bed, which accounts, in a great measure, for the immense produce. The following year I planted more in the same way; I had two bushels, weighing 180lbs., from fifteen hillocks. In 1845, the potatoes I planted in hillocks were attacked by the disease, and nearly all rotted. I kept no account of the produce. In 1847, the potatoes in hillocks produced a much better crop than those I planted in two feet ridges, and not so much diseased. When planting potatoes in hillocks I have selected the largest. From the above results I think a larger return can be produced from potatoes planted in hillocks (that is, for the main crop for winter use), than any other plan that I am acquainted with; great benefit is derived by the distance at which they are planted, affording a free circulation of air, and the applying a small quantity of manure, such as guano, soot, &c., each time the soil is raised round the plants. As to the potato disease and early planting, the whole of my early crop was raised by the first week in July without a diseased potato; they were planted early in February, none later than the middle of March. Of the late sorts of potatoes that have withstood the disease better than any other in this neighbourhood are the Farmer's Glory, both blue and white.—Wm. Smith, *Upper Ludstone, Claverley, Salop.—Gardeners' Chronicle.*—[This we have seen extensively carried out in Belgium.]

Effects of the late Severe Frosts on Evergreens, in Buckinghamshire.—It may perhaps be useful to know how far many of our evergreens have withstood the late severe season, in different localities. Amongst those in the grounds under my care, the

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following are unhurt:—Araucaria imbricata, Thuja aurea, T. filiformis, T. Nepalensis, Aucuba Japonica, Cedrus Deodara, Cryptomeria Japonica, Cupressus Lambertiana, C. pendula, C. torulosa, C. thyoides, Daphne Colina, Juniperus Chinensis, J. Chinensis femina, J. Cracova, J. Canadensis, J. drupacea, J. dauricus, J. excelsa, J. flacida, J. oblonga, J. ocycedrus, J. pendula, J. pendula vera, J. recurva, J. religiosa, J. Smithii, J. sabin nana, J. squamata, J. tamariscifolia, J. tetragona, Pinus Banksiana, P. cemba, P. excelsa, P. insignis, P. laricia, Abies khutrow, A. mirinda, A. Menziesii, A. Smithii, Picea Frazerii, P. pinsapo. The following are injured:—andrachne, A. andrachne hybrida, A. Millerii, Arbutus and the scarlet, sweetbays, laurestinus, and late growths of laurels; Euonymus Japonica, very bad; Escallonia rubra, also bad; Taxodium sempervirens, points injured. The following were killed in the spring of 1853:—White and yellow brooms; Cupressus, Mexican variety, and C. thurifera, Juniperus Bedfordiana, and Pinus patula.—W. S.

SOMETHING LIKE A TREE.—Wellingtonia gigantea is the name of a new and amazing coniferous tree. It is an evergreen, and one recently felled was a hundred yards in length, and at five feet from the ground, was nearly thirty feet in diameter. The bark taken from the lower twenty feet of the trunk, has, at San Francisco, been arranged in its natural shape, and forms a carpetted room, containing a piano and seats for forty people. It has also contained one hundred and forty children, without inconvenience. Mr. Lobb, collector for Messrs. Veitch, of Exeter, gives the above particulars, and the editor of the *Gardeners' Chronicle* furnishes still further information as to the gigantic size of this tree, in the following observations, in reply to a correspondent:—"That it was over thirty feet in diameter is pretty clear, from the number of persons that can be seated in it. We understand that a mounted horseman

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rode into the interior of a hollow tree that had been blown over, and after proceeding some distance, turned his horse and rode out again!" The tree was perfectly sound, and judging from the number of rings, it has been supposed to be three thousand years old.

There are some splendid specimens of pines, &c. at Dropmore. The Abies Douglasii is seventy feet high; Araucaria imbricata, forty feet high; Cedar of Lebanon, planted nearly fifty years, seventy feet.

The total length of wall for training fruit trees, at the Royal Gardens, Frogmore, is about 4,600 feet.

We are very glad to find that the beautiful *Skimmia Japonica* has withstood the severe weather with perfect impunity. We have noticed this plant before, on its first introduction, but as we have some further knowledge of its habits, and as we are anxious so handsome a shrub should be extensively cultivated, we cannot, we are sure, render more acceptable service to our numerous friends who are fond of fine evergreens, than quote the character given it by Messrs. Standish & Noble. "The leaves are thick and fleshy, of a deep green, smooth on both sides, five or six inches long, by one and a half broad, and of an oblong shape. In May, it is covered with dense heads of greenish yellow flowers, which emit a very strong and agreeable odour, resembling that of Daphne Indica. These are followed by bunches of bright scarlet oval berries, which remain on the plant till the following winter. It produces both flowers and fruit, when but five or six inches high. As an ornament for the lawn, or the winter decoration of the conservatory, it has scarcely a rival. *No degree of cold seems to hurt it.* Plants in the open border have received no injury during the late severe frosts. The berries which were ripened last year are still upon them, and will,

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no doubt, remain till the plants are in bloom again next spring." Now, after this description, who is there that has a lawn, or a belt of evergreens, who would not add this fine plant to his collection?

The Fonthill plum is very large and fine, and is supposed to be the same as Pond's Seedling. It is even larger than the red Magnum Bonum, and much superior to that variety.

Every year adds to our really good hardy trees and shrubs. *Wellingtonea gigantea* is one of the last as well as the *greatest* novelties. Messrs. Veitch, of Exeter, we see, are taking orders for seedling plants. This with the Cedrus Deodara, Cupressus macrocarpa, Pinus macrocarpa, and other beautiful species of conifera, will, in a few years, cause a complete revolution in our English landscapes, beautiful as they are even now.

Among evergreen shrubs, there are two berberries worthy of especial mention. One is *B. Bealii* and the other *B. Japonica.* They belong to the section termed by the late Mr. Loudon, Mahonia, having ashlike pinnate leaves. They both bear yellow flowers, fragrant, the latter especially so, and should they really prove to be similarly scented with the tea rose, everybody will be delighted with the acquisition.

Amongst conifers, we have tried various species of Podocarpus, but *P. totara,* with two or three others, do not appear suited to the climate of Nottinghamshire and counties lying north of the Trent. Messrs. Standish have two, however, that have proved themselves quite hardy. These are *P. nubigena,* a most beautiful tree, with close foliage and erect habit; and *P. chilina,* also one of extraordinary merit, with long and singular foliage. Of course, from their recent introduction, these fine plants are

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scarce and dear; but where novelty of character and contrast is desirable, they will, doubtless, be eagerly sought for.

We give the annexed circular, and shall make a few remarks thereon. We are glad to find floral societies established anywhere, and everywhere, simply because, when properly carried out, they have a powerful tendency to elevate the mind and to supersede enjoyments of a more questionable character. That flowers in the north, and those from the south cannot usually be shown together we well know; but still the great aim of the National Carnation and Picotee Society is to bring *ALL florists, as much as possible,* together, on that one occasion, at least once a year. Therefore, if there are two periods, it will divide the exhibiters, and the great aim of assimilating opinions will, in a measure, be neutralized. Why not have the national carnation and picotee show, next year, at Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, or even farther north. It will be for the growers there to fix their own day,—they will have full power to do so, and still the "national" will continue to engender those good feelings amongst florists which it has done hitherto. These are our simple views of the matter. Of course the northern florists can do what they see most favourable to the cause of floriculture. We see no reason why there should not be district carnation and picotee societies on the same principle as the North Lancashire and South Lancashire tulip shows. Still we hold that the principle of the national shows should be preserved in its integrity, for the reasons assigned at the commencement of our remarks.

"Falkenhurst Cottage, near Oldham, Feb. 25, 1854.—Dear Sir,—Without doubt, great benefits result from the large gatherings of florists from all parts of the kingdom, such as the NATIONAL TULIP SHOW, or the NATIONAL CARNATION AND PICOTEE SOCIETY'S EXHIBITIONS, not only to the floricultural world, but to the public generally, yet the northern counties

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have not established a national exhibition, although it is a well known fact that they are not behind the southerns in their taste for flowers. The florists of the northern counties cannot compete with the southern growers on equal grounds, *at their exhibitions*, on account of the difference in climate, for the northern flowers are scarcely expanded when the southern flowers are long past bloom. The southern growers have a *large majority* in the National Carnation and Picotee Society, consequently the southern growers fix the day of exhibition to suit their own interest; it is therefore the opinion of several influential florists, that a necessity exists for establishing a Northern Carnation and Picotee Society, to represent the northern counties, but open to universal competition, in which the majority would naturally be northern growers, so that the northerns and southerns would then show on equal terms. A favourable opportunity presents itself for establishing such a society, based on the well known principles which have so long characterized these counties. I am, dear sir, yours respectfully, JAMES WHITEHEAD."

OBITUARY.—We have just heard with sincere regret, that JOHN MORRIS, Esq., of Silverdale, near Lancaster, is dead. He was one of the judges at the national tulip show, at Nottingham, last year, and was an eminent and enthusiastic cultivator of that flower.

REVIEWS.

THE FLORIST, FRUITIST, AND GARDEN MISCELLANY. By Charles Turner and John Spencer. *Chapman and Hall, London.*

As usual, a good number. The embellishment is *Philesia buxifolia*, supposed to be hardy, as it has lived out of doors, at Exeter, for the last three years. It is a very handsome bushy plant, with pink flowers. Amongst other interesting articles is one on "Grouping Tulips." Our friend Mr. Willison, of Whitby, mooted the same subject some time ago, in the *Midland Florist*, when a sad outcry was raised at the innovation. We shall now see what will be said on this occasion. Mr. Edwards makes out a fair case.

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He says, when each sort is planted together, you have a much better opportunity of selecting the best, being all under the eye at the same time. We have selected an article which we trust will interest our readers. It is on preserving seeds from birds, and is appropriate just now.—(See page 114.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

An Aspirant.—Your best plan will be to visit as many tulip beds as you can, and attend the various exhibitions which take place, according to your leisure and your means. Listen to the observations made by older men. Florists are generally communicative on their favourite theme, and will, we are sure, readily point out the best flowers, and will also tell you why they are so. With regard to impure basing, do not buy a flower impure either at the base or stamens. Get them as short in the cup as possible. There are some finely marked pure flowers, such as Rose Camillus, or Flambeau de la Duchess, which are yet sought after, though much too long; but it is because the class of good flamed roses is scarce. From the immense number of finely-formed pure seedling flowers coming forward, we are certain that many old flowers will be beaten from our exhibition tables. Always buy a good strain, if you have to give more for it. There are breeds in tulips as well as in fowls, horses, dogs, &c. No one would buy a cart-horse for a racer; therefore it will be imperative that you attend to this. Bad strains only ensure disappointment and disgust. When you buy, mark the bulb, in your memorandum book you may make a record of this description,—

26th May, bought of Mr. W. M.

Heroine, 7s. 6d. 2nd bulb in 10th row.
Charles X., 5s. 3rd „ 12th „
Princess Royal, 5s. 3rd „ 15th „

and so on. When the foliage begins to turn yellow, take your money and memorandum book in your pocket, and some small paper bags, with the names of your intended purchase written on them. You can then have the bulbs taken up, and generally, when ready money is paid, you will have the offset or offsets attached to the root, a point of importance to young beginners. Take your bulbs carefully home, and put the bags in a dry airy place, out of the reach

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of mice. You will find abundant information on the tulip, in the vols. of the *Midland Florist*, and we hope there is plenty more to come.

PINKS.—W. S.—It is too late now. There is an amazing difference between the varieties now cultivated and those of twenty years ago. Get some of the best-formed smoothest-petalled sorts you can find, save seed from them, and endeavour to perpetuate your name by originating something first-rate. This season, we shall sow at least half an ounce of clean seed, gathered from most of the best flowers in cultivation. It is seed of this kind which is invaluable. There is pink seed grown for sale,—the sole object being quantity. We would advise our friend, W. S. to have nothing to do with it.

H. B.—You may get Fuchsia serratifolia of most nurserymen who are plant growers.

PERMANENT PASTURE.—R. S.—Some lands do not lay down well. Most first-rate seedsmen would select you the proper varieties for your soil. The price would be about thirty shillings per acre.

CONIFERS.—B.—We should think you would do best to get them of Lawson & Son, Edinburgh.

FUCHSIAS.—J. J.—Get Dr. Lindley, Banks's Glory, Gem of the Season, Perfection, Duchess of Lancaster, Princeps, Lady Franklin, and Mrs. Patterson. These were some of the best out last year, and we should imagine that you would obtain them at about twelve shillings per dozen.

LABELS.—W. S.—Those made of earthenware are extremely brittle. Perhaps Gutta percha, or leaden ones, attached with copper wire, and stamped with number or name, might answer your purpose.

THE DEODAR.—M.—The wood is highly fragrant.

PINKS.—AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—We should indeed be glad to see the idea carried out. We are certain it must come to it. We hope to try the experiment this year.

STRIKING CUTTINGS.—We are much gratified by the approval of Sir I. Stuart Menteith, and trust our little periodical will always merit his good opinion. He will see that we have put some of his suggestions into practice, and we will take the subject up thoroughly, in future numbers.

TULIPS.—POLYPHEMUS.—R. P.—We believe a great number of seedlings from this sort are in possession of florists throughout the country. You are right; when flamed, some of the breaks have a greenish tinge at the base. We have seen it, feathered, one of the finest bizarres grown.

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COLLODION.—S.—We hope to have some detailed experiments soon. It is an excellent thing to cover recent wounds on shrubs, vines, &c., when the sap is flowing.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR APRIL.

Sow all sorts of herbs; and if such things are desirable,—and they are in most artizans' gardens,—plant slips of rosemary, and plant out thyme and similar things. Make sowings of lettuce, radishes, and cress, on warm borders. Get in the main crop of peas and beans. Our readers may select the sorts from our chapter on vegetables. Celery plants may be again transplanted, previous to their final putting out. If this is done on well-prepared beds of leaf soil and rotten manure, they will emit abundant fibres, highly beneficial to their future development; and when the trenches are made, if the plants are raised with a small fork, a mass of this rich compost adheres to them, and they do not in any way suffer from the removal. Get in the main crop of carrots, and do not delay the planting of potatoes. Our readers will see several plans for the prevention of the disease. Of their merits, we hope to be able to report fully, next season. About the middle of the month, sow a good breadth of scarlet runners, one of the most useful vegetables grown. This winter, we have had some which had been salted, and, in the absence of fresh ones, they were very excellent. We do not see any reason why every family should not, according to their number, salt a certain quantity for winter use. For this reason, we say sow a good quantity. Sow all sorts of broccoli, savoys, Brussells sprouts, &c.

Pansies may be propagated by slipping the side shoots and planting out. Mark seedlings as they bloom, and pull up all of an inferior character. Sow auricula seed in shallow boxes, in soil that contains a considerable portion of decayed vegetable matter. Protect frames containing blooming plants from the effects of night frosts. The neglect of this will often prove fatal to the trusses. Cover tulips with net, of a small mesh, or lace made for the especial purpose. A severe hailstorm, at this season, would be very serious. Propagate dahlias, by striking the young shoots in heat. These will make good plants for May. Polyanthuses in the open border are much exposed to snails; entrap them by any of the various modes recommended in our pages. Lose not a day in getting carnation layers into pots. We fear this operation is often delayed too long.

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

APPLES OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES.

[Continued from page 108.]

Marmalade.—Raised by the late John Stevens, of Stanton-by-Dale, Derbyshire. Bears most profusely; yellow in colour, and slightly ribbed. First-rate as a baking fruit, whence its appellation.

Mee's Seedling.—Found in old orchards, bears and keeps well, and excellent for kitchen use, but its appearance is against it.

Moss's Incomparable.—A medium-sized fruit, hollow in the eye, keeps remarkably well, in fact, with care, till fruit is ready the succeeding year. It is only adapted for baking. It is extremely apt to fall from the tree. We should not much recommend it.

Nonsuch.—Yet to be found in old orchards in the midlands, but now is seldom planted, the tree being apt to canker, and the fruit, though fine and of brisk flavour, not keeping well.

Nonpareil (Pitmanston Russet).—By no means a handsome apple, bears early and well, very juicy, with a sharp flavour, too much so, we should imagine, for most palates.

Norfolk Beaufin, or *Beefing.*—Also of unprepossessing appearance. Never planted in this part of the country now, for were a quantity to be exposed for sale in the market, we question whether a customer could be found for them.

Northern Greening.—When well grown, this is a fine apple, but if the trees are crowded with wood, they are apt to spot and be small, when they have a very crablike appearance. In its best character, it is a good-sized conical apple, when ripe, yellowish green, slightly tinged with red next the sun. It keeps well, and is certainly one of the best baking apples we have.

Peach Apple.—A peculiar variety, with thin weeping branches when young; bears most abundantly; colour purplish red, a downy appearance on the fruit, like the peach. It is a profitable apple to plant.

Pearmain (Pike's).—We do not see any of this name in catalogues of fruit trees, though there is no apple more extensively grown in the midland counties. It is upright in growth, a free bearer, very handsome, and, bakes and eats well. This is saying a good deal,—*but it is so.* Those who are planting young orchards, and who wish to have an early-bearing good sort, should undoubtedly grow this variety.

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Pearmain (Mannington).—This bears and keeps well, is of good flavour, and a handsome medium-sized fruit, very likely to become a favourite.

Padley's Pippin.—We believe also known as the *Rymer*, or *Caldwell*. The original tree stands at Burton Joyce, near Nottingham. It is a very great bearer, medium size, short in the stem, and hollow in the eye; often very rich in colour; bakes well, but occasionally a slight bitterness may be detected. It will keep well till April. In unfavourable seasons or where grown in the shade, or the trees are crowded, like the Northern Greening, it is comparatively worthless. The trees should always be kept well pruned and thinned.

Quarrenden (Devonshire).—A tree of rather straggling growth, bears remarkably well, and is a handsome scarlet summer eating apple. It is rather under than above the medium size, and is angular in outline. It does not keep long, and is best eaten, when ripe, off the tree.

Queen Caroline (Earl Moira, or *Spencer's Favourite).*—A highly esteemed apple of the midland counties. A detailed account of its origin has been given, some time ago, in our pages, by our friend, Mr. Hextall, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch. It is yellow, of fine form, bears early and abundantly, and is one of the best and most productive.

JOTTINGS ON FLOWERS AND PLANTS,

MADE DURING A COMMERCIAL TOUR, IN THE SUMMER OF 1853.

BY R. S.

I PROMISED for your May number a continuation of my jottings on bedding plants, and as now is a good time to obtain them, I trust my few notes may prove of service.

Verbenas are so wonderfully improved, and the character of them so varied, that all the distinct varieties would probably be more than very many of your readers could grow, but they could make a selection of some of the most attractive. What struck me most in the numerous new varieties which came under my notice, during last summer, was the quantity which have pure white eyes or centres. Amongst the scarlets, having this distinctive character, were the three following, perfectly distinct and

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most beautifully attractive. Scarlet King, the eye very striking, and though not fully in bloom when I saw it, still its habit was good, and truss of large size; Islington Rival, somewhat in the same style, but amazingly productive of flowers,—a splendid sort for bedding; and Triumph, seen at the same place, and on the same day, will bear comparison with either of those I have previously named. The form is certainly better, and round the white centre is a narrow ring of a darker tint, which sets off the flowers wonderfully. Rouge et Noir is a splendid sort, darker and richer than the above, and also with a bold white eye. I noted a great improvement in the two-coloured flowers, white, with darker centres. There seems to be a closer and better habit amongst them. One of the best has been raised by Mr. Robinson, who originated Defiance. It makes a noble truss, and is a close, though a luxuriant grower. The white is good, and each pip is strongly marked with a deep crimson blotch. Another, marked in the same way, but more delicate, and appropriately named, was Bridesmaid, a most beautiful variety, the centre being bright pink. Jessie (Gardiner) is also new, and different to either of the above, having a white ground, with purple centre, and forming a large and attractive truss. Certainly, amongst the number of fine specimens I saw, this was one that claimed a good share of my admiration. Queen, another of this class, which I must not forget to mention, was really fine,—the white was so pure, and the contrast of its brilliant cherry-coloured centre appeared extremely effective. In selfs, there was much to admire. Caliban, for instance, raised by that successful grower, Mr. George Smith, of Islington, requires more than a passing notice. It was conspicuous amongst many hundreds for its fine trusses of crimson flowers, shot or shaded with purple, and of most excellent form. Annie Laurie I thought very beautiful, being purple, with a white centre. In this variety, form was most conspicuous.

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Zaria was distinct and attractive, with fine truss; flowers lilac, with darker centre. Noblissima, also a most delicate and beautiful thing. In this sort, the white centre was most decided, the body colour being a fine rose. But I must hold my hand, for these, I find, were the cream of what I saw.

I did not see many new calceolarias (bedding sorts I mean) that took my fancy. Wellington Hero is a fine yellow, and makes a good show. The same may be said of Golden Chain; and of the crimsons, perhaps the two best were, Henderson's Magnificent, a noble sort, and Crimson King. The last is of dwarf shrubby habit, and very beautiful.

Like verbenas, scarlet and horseshoe-leaved geraniums were in great force, and much improvement has evidently been realized. Mrs. Ricket, with darkly-marked foliage, and which I had not previously seen, was very attractive, and apparently extremely prolific; and Kingsburg Pet, scarlet, with white centre, I thought good. Bishopstowe, pointed out to me as a new variety, was in my eye sadly too much like several others of the class. The blush varieties of the horseshoe-leaved geraniums have increased in number very much during the last few years. Miss Emily Field, a delicate pretty sort; Mrs. Jefferies, a rather new shade of rosy lilac; and Adeline, I had marked as three of the best. The last-named flowering most profusely. And of variegated ones of this class, a variety raised by Messrs. Osborn & Son, named Brilliant, was peculiarly attractive, from its dwarf and close habit, with the leaves edged with cream colour. Then there might be some half-dozen others. Amongst the best, were Bridal Bouquet, Flower of the Day, Golden Admiration, and Mountain of Light; though the most effective mass I saw during the summer, was of my little favourite, the Dandy. This is such a pet for the purpose, with its neatly-formed foliage and compact habit, that I am sure it has only to be seen to be appreciated.

As for petunias, their name is legion. Of these,

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I saw a few very striking foreign novelties, though for bedding purposes, the dark crimson varieties are most effective. Of these, Crimson King, Model of Perfection, Mrs. Lowe, and Ricartonii were very beautiful, forming masses of splendid colours. There are several varieties with green margins, but they are more curious than beautiful. Prince de Rohan, which I saw noticed in your periodical, when it was first let out, did not appear to bloom satisfactorily; though the margin is green, still the body colour looks washy and weak, and the foliage is bad. Admirabilis was shown to me as a new one, and certainly it was better. Archduke Jean, also in the same class, almost half the flowers being green. Alba magna was very effective as a white bedding variety, in several places, contrasting finely with Berryer and Crimson King. These are altogether the best that came under my notice, and will, I think, from their contrast and diversity, be pleasing to all lovers of bedding plants.

NEW PLANTS.

LILIUM COLCHICUM.—A great addition to hardy lilies, much in the way of Lilium lancifolium. The flowers are pale yellow.

DIANTHUS MILLERII. *(Miller's Hybrid Mule Pink.)* —This will be a very acceptable plant for gardens of every description. It is double, and attains the height of twelve inches. The colour is bright scarlet, and having a bushy habit, it will make a good pot plant for exhibitions, as well as being perfectly adapted for the open border.

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OROBUS VERNUS FLORE PLENO.—An extremely singular vetch, with double white flowers, shaded with pink. We have flowered it this spring, and it makes an interesting addition to this pretty spring-flowering tribe of plants.

MORÆA BICOLOR.—A rather tender herbaceous plant, but one that deserves every care, from the singularity of its flowers, and their long continuance. It belongs to the iris family. The flowers are large, and bright yellow, with a dark centre, nearly black.

HARDY PLANTS.

EVERYBODY admires the beautiful Clematis Sieboldii and azurea grandiflora. We have to record in our pages three very beautiful varieties, which our readers will do well to inquire about. As hardy climbing plants, they are unrivalled. The two first appear to be related to C. azurea grandiflora. *C. Helene*, flowers pure white, and fully as large as the first-named sort. *C. Sophie* has also large flowers, which are blue, with a greenish stripe down the centre of each petal. *C. Bicolor Monstrosa*, in the style of Sieboldii, excepting that the flowers are usually borne in pairs.

PÆONIA ARBOREA GERMANICA.—This, no doubt, will prove a very great acquisition. One of the drawbacks to the successful cultivation of those truly magnificent plants the tree pæonies, arises from their great excitability. In the one just alluded to, which is from Japan, this is not the case. It is perfectly hardy, and whilst the frosts of this spring have destroyed the tree pæonies from China, this has stood uninjured. The flowers are single, but what a splendid thing it will be to save seed from, rising, as it does, to fifteen feet high, and bearing flowers which may easily be impregnated. They are large, and are

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a mixture of red, black, and yellow. These are the national colours of Germany, and this is the reason why Dr. V. Siebold named it P. Germanica.

Some first-rate novelties in roses have been originated on the Continent. The following are amongst the best, and have been let out in grafted plants, this last March. In moss roses, which are favourites with everyone, is *Laffay's Angele*, a very vigorous growing sort. The flowers are large and double, petals well formed and well imbricated, the colour a delicate pink. *Jeanne de Montfort* bears its flowers in clusters of twelve or fourteen. It is a large full rose, deep pink, with a violet shade at the edge of the petals; they are also of excellent shape. *Le Blouissante*, deep crimson, very double, and of excellent form, a very strong grower. *Robert Fortune*, a new colour amongst moss roses, being mottled with lilac and pale violet; a globular and splendid variety. *Agar* is a Bourbon rose of extra fine form, being imbricated like a camellia. It is deep pink, changing to rosy lilac as the flower ages. In tea-scented roses, *Gloire de Dijon* will undoubtedly become a favourite, being a very large and full flower; and when we say that it is as large and of the same form as *Souvenir de Malmaison*, our readers will at once perceive that were it not for its colour, it would be a capital rose; but independent of size and form, it has a most beautiful perfume, and is of a fine bright yellow, shaded with rich salmon. This will doubtless prove one of the most attractive novelties of its class. As usual, in the hybrid perpetual class, there are some good additions. For instance, *Blanche de Bernede* is a strong-growing pure white rose, beautifully imbricated. *Gloire de Parthenay* is a seedling of very great merit, having all the good points which roses should have. The colour is rich pink, with a deeper tint round the margins, whilst the backs of the petals are nearly white. *Gloire de France* is a seedling from Geant des Batailles, also

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deep and brilliant crimson. It is, however, better in form, and continues much longer in bloom than its parent, and will be found a decided acquisition. *Captain John Franklin* is another seedling from Geant, with larger flowers, and a colour even more brilliant than that variety. *Jules Margotten*, raised by M. Margotten, is one of the most beautiful of this class. The colour is bright cherry red, it is of exquisite form, and a first-rate show rose.

In greenhouse plants, there is a first-rate new camellia, *Archduchesse Marie*. It is of the most perfect shape imaginable, colour deep and rich cherry, each petal being distinctly marked with a broad stripe of pure white. When exhibited, last season, it had fourteen flowers expanded at once, though by no means a large plant. *Rubens* is another new one, raised by M. Donkelaar, and is of the largest size. It is deep rose, striped with white, but though very handsome, is not so striking as the Archduchesse.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

I. K.—Scarlet Rhubarb.—Your seedling is very high coloured, and when cooked, proved of excellent flavour. We consider it quite equal to any early scarlet rhubarb we have yet seen.

G. R.—Cinerarias.—Your bright lake seedling is striking and attractive, but rather small. The purple one, with a circle of red round the eye, is of good form. Both are very fair flowers.

W. M.—Pansies.—Your seedling, *Albert*, with yellow ground, is of good form and size; the eye is strong, and the margin well defined, but unfortunately there is too much difference in the shade of the yellow in the side and lower petals. *Hero*, dark self, is a fine stout flower, very similar to Tunley's Duke of Sutherland. We do not think it any improvement on that variety. What we want now is more novelty in this class of flowers.

W. S.—Your seedlings are promising, but sadly out of condition. When you have better flowers, send again.

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J. R.—Polyanthuses.—No. 1. The pip cuts too much into the yellow ground, similar to the old flower, Yorkshire Regent, consequently worthless. We should say the other "may be" Pearson's Alexander; but there are so many seedlings raised in various parts of the country, which bear a strong family likeness to that old sort, that we should not like to positively assert that it is. No. 2 is a gem in point of form and marking, but too small.

P. T.—Auriculas.—The white-edged is Taylor's Glory. The grey, with open tube, almost destitute of thrums, is Pearson's Badajoz, a flat nicely-formed flower. We have not seen it before this for some years. The other pips were much rubbed, and unknown to us.

H. S.—Mimulus.—*Pet* is bold and a finely-marked flower. Propagate it by all means. We have no doubt there are plenty in the trade who would purchase it of you. The other three sent are too similar to existing flowers.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

VILLAGE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

We have always been strenuous advocates for gatherings of this description, convinced that when properly managed, they are productive of a great amount of good. That their sphere of utility may be greatly increased by a judicious selection of prizes is patent to every one, and as a hint or two may be of service, we will remark that we have received a schedule from Dunoon, in Scotland, which appears to have been framed with much care, and one feature of which, the giving small prizes for articles which bring many of the humbler class into competition, most certainly is worthy of especial notice. We are glad to see a rule to this effect, "Donors are not allowed to compete for prizes offered by themselves;" for we recollect, some years ago, acting as judge at a tulip show, where a grower who had a larger collection by half than any other member, offered a prize

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of one sovereign for the best stand of six tulips. He competed for it himself, and won,—in our eyes a rather ungraceful performance. But to the Dunoon prizes. There appears to be a good spirit among the gentry of the neighbourhood, for there are at least a score who offer *extra prizes*, for the encouragement, perhaps, of a favourite flower, that they delight in. For instance, one lady gives 5s. for the best six moss roses, in three varieties; and the vice-president 7s. 6d. for the best *distinct* hardy perennials. How much better is this than to give a prize for a collection, which we have seen seriously abused, and such a mess of flowers stuck in bottles,—the parties imagining, we suppose, that quantity was preferable to quality. But there is nothing like specifying the number, six, twelve, or eighteen, as the case may be, and then good growing and fine varieties may delight the eye, whilst, if the number is too large, inferior articles or varieties are required, which completely destroy the harmony and effect of the good ones. We see a prize is also offered for the best treatise on the culture of the camellia, to be competed for by journeymen and apprentice gardeners. How glad should we be to see the same encouragement held out to the same class of workmen in our own country; it would engender thoughtful careful experiments, aid in forming a good style of composition, and would doubtless, in more ways than one, be beneficial to the competitors in after life.

We see also prizes (extras) of a very interesting character, for which artizans, amateurs, &c. only compete. For instance, there is one for three phloxes, Abdul Medjid Khan, Roi Leopold, and General Duvevier. 5s. for the best six China asters. Here the number will allow strong competition. Also 5s. for "the best hand bouquet, not to exceed eight inches in height, shown in a hyacinth glass." 2s. 6d. for the best dahlia, 7s. 6d. for the best rose in a pot, 2s. 6d. for the best four verbenas, with many others of a similar character, not forgetting vegetables.

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These, it must be borne in mind, are independent of the usual schedule. In fact, there are twenty-four extra prizes offered by as many individuals, at their first show, to gardeners, and seventeen to amateurs; whilst at the second show, in September, there are also twenty-four for gardeners and twenty-two for amateurs. This speaks loudly for the encouragement which the higher classes give to horticulture, at Dunoon, for doubtless they contribute to the funds of the society besides. It is such patronage as this that draws the links of society tighter together, and which, if adopted in every village and town in the kingdom, would be calculated to accomplish immense good.

THE SINGLE AND DOUBLE HAWTHORN.

The temperature of exceptional years, such as 1853, bring forward in relief the qualities and defects of certain ornamental plants in a prominent degree, if we could make use of the comparison in question, in the same way as grave and difficult circumstances bring out the good and bad qualities of men. During the year which has just passed away, the single white and red hawthorn have not flourished more than five or six days. Short time indeed! but nevertheless, an event which often occurs. The double white and red hawthorn have begun to flourish at the same period as the single, viz. from the 15th to the 20th of May; they have preserved all their bloom until far in the month of June, and the total duration of their flowering has not been less than one month. To what is the difference owing? Why, to the well-known fact, with regard to single flowers, that when the reproductive organs have fulfilled their functions—the fecundation,—and may or may not have succeeded, the corolla falls. In the double flower, the reproductive organs are wanting, being replaced by petals; then petals exist so long as the plant supplies

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them with sap. Thus explains itself naturally the prolonged inflorescence of ornamental plants with double flowers. Can there be anything more fresh, fair, and beautiful to the view, at the entrance of a grove, than a double white hawthorn, whose flower changes to red as it gradually expands, whilst that of the double red hawthorn assumes a darker shade the longer it is open. The abnormal circumstances of the temperature of the spring of 1853 have tended in a remarkable degree to cause to be appreciated the merit of the prolonged flourishing of trees with double flowers, as, under the influence of the same circumstances, single flowers of a similar kind would only have lasted an instant! We beg once more to call the attention of amateurs to the merits of these two charming varieties of the same tree. Nothing is more simple and easy than to multiply one and the other, by grafting them on the common hawthorn. This means of decorating lawns and groves is not so much in vogue as it might and ought to be.

From the French of A. Isabeau, by I. R. Alexander.

RIVAL POLYANTHUSES.

BULLOCK'S LANCER *VERSUS* ADDIS'S KINGFISHER.

Much having been said about the comparative merits of these flowers, I was induced to take the following notes, last season, and shall be glad if any amateurs who grow them, will take the trouble of comparing them carefully, and let us have their opinions this spring.

Bullock's Lancer.—A very fine rich darkish crimson ground; tube pretty well elevated, eye very circular, lace quite regular and perfect in every respect, and outline also very good. One objection to the habit of the plant is, the shortness of the footstalk, as it is rather difficult to get the truss much above the foliage; but upon the whole it must be considered the finest red ground yet seen in the north of England, being much finer than George IV., although not such a large and striking flower.

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Addis's Kingfisher.—Very beautiful when newly opened, but the tube decidedly too wide and rather sparingly filled with anthers; eye a fine yellow, but too large in proportion; ground colour a fine crimson, but not enough of it in proportion to the large eye; and the lace decidedly too narrow. A very pretty variety, but the proportions as here stated; the faults being *too wide a tube, too large an eye,* and *too narrow in the lace.*

WM. HARRISON.

West Thirston, Felton, April 1, 1854.

THE NATIONAL TULIP SHOW.

As we anticipated, though late (through unavoidable circumstances) in making arrangements, this exhibition will very likely exceed its predecessors, and will be a rich treat to all the tulip growers of the country who may attend it. Unless the weather alter very much, we imagine it will be right for our brother florists of Lancashire and the north; and highly gratified should we be to see some of their best seedlings brought into competition with the southern varieties. That the metropolitan exhibition will do much towards removing differences of opinion, and bringing the rules for deciding on the merits of flowers within their proper limits, we feel sure. That there are certain properties laid down for judging we well know, but still there are points on which judges may yet differ. For instance, in a stand of six flowers of equal merit, one may prefer light feathered flowers, whilst another has a decided bias for "a good plate," or heavy feather. Again, a stout beam will be esteemed by one, whilst a narrow one will be admired by another. Therefore it would be a point, in setting up a stand, to know what were the feelings of the judges on these heads, and what had been their previous predilections; for in this case no rule can be laid down, and if heavy and light feathers or flames are exhibited in the same class, the decision must in a great measure be left to the fancy

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of the judges. A question often arises as to whether it would be expedient to separate them, as in the case of heavy and light-edged picotees. We think there is room enough to make several more classes, which would add to the interest of our exhibitions; or, at all events, we think it worthy the consideration of tulip growers, and should be glad to have their opinion on the subject. We imagine the coming national tulip show will give an opportunity of seeing what we mean, for we have an idea that the metropolitan fancy have a penchant for lightly-marked flowers; but, of course, of this we shall be better able to form an opinion after the 24th of May.

Since writing the above, we have had an intimation that should the present weather continue, the southern bloom will be over,—thus giving our north country friends a better chance. At the moment of writing, we have not received a schedule, and may not before going to press, but we believe we can give a few leading features, which we particularly recommend to all florists who have been in the habit of attending the national shows.

Class A will be six blooms, a feather and flame of each class. This will give every grower in the kingdom a chance; for, let people say what they will, the prizes (firsts) hitherto gained at the nationals, have been taken by florists whose beds of flowers are comparatively small, and it is very possible for growers of this class to raise six good flowers. Therefore we anticipate many entries.

Class B will be twelve blooms,—four byblœmens, four bizarres, and four roses. These must be distinct varieties, but may be feathered or flamed, as the exhibiter can best find them.

Class C, eighteen blooms, six of a colour, on the same terms as the preceding, &c.

There will also be a class for six breeders; and another chance for small growers will be six premiers of twenty shillings each. These will be selected from the best in the room, whether they have pre-

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viously taken prizes or not. The twelve blooms will be open to amateurs only, though we confess that we think the line rather difficult to draw, as most tulip growers, who are not professed nurserymen and florists, *deal in tulips*—they *buy and sell*,—and some amateurs that we know to a considerable extent. However this is not much object to dealers, for we hold it a bad plan at any time for a dealer to beat his customer.

We hope seedlings will not be lost sight of. In the hands of some of our best growers, there are grand varieties, which want bringing forward at such exhibitions as this. We insert the address, as it may not otherwise reach many florists, and we earnestly entreat all amateurs and tulip growers to lose no time in communicating with the honorary secretary, Mr. Lawrence, of Hampton Court. It is many chances to one whether the opportunity of witnessing so splendid a sight will again occur; for, independent of the tulips, everything beautiful to look upon, in plants, &c., will be there congregated.

"THE GREAT NATIONAL TULIP EXHIBITION, FOR 1854.—Sir,—Unexpected difficulties having intervened to prevent the holding of this exhibition for the present season at the Surrey Gardens, as proposed at the annual meeting, at Nottingham, last year (the proprietor declining to have a May exhibition), I have the gratification to inform you, that the council of the Royal Botanic Society have kindly given permission to hold the exhibition in connexion with their first show, on Wednesday, May the 24th. Remembering that the spectators before whom the tulip will then be illustrated will be pre-eminently the largest, most influential, and, at the same time, the most select of any yet secured, the gentlemen charged with the arrangements feel a more than usual anxiety that the result shall reflect an additional lustre on the florists' labours; and, when it is borne in mind that the company will comprise thousands who have hitherto been indifferent to those labours, because ignorant of the skill employed and the beauty of the subjects developed—and the present offering a most desirable opportunity for awakening their interest—I cannot hesitate to believe you will warmly sympathize in the anxiety felt. As a means likely to ensure a fine display, it is of consequence the prizes to be competed for should be liberal and numerous, and I shall be most happy to place your name upon the subscrip-

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tion list for such an amount as you may be pleased to authorize. As, from the circumstances I have recited, the time has been greatly narrowed, and it is necessary the schedule of prizes should be issued immediately, your prompt reply will be greatly esteemed. I am, sir, your obedient servant, ROBERT JAMES LAWRENCE, hon. sec.—Hampton, Middlesex, April, 1854."

THE CHRYSANTHEMUM

IN the following remarks respecting chrysanthemums, I shall chiefly confine myself to the mode of cultivating them in pots. As soon as the plants have done flowering, I cut them down, and place them in any convenient corner on the south side of a wall, where they are in some measure sheltered from frost and north-easterly winds. They remain in this situation undisturbed, except by watering them now and then, until the present time, when they are removed to a more open place, preparatory to their being wanted for the purpose of propagation. Chrysanthemums may be increased by cuttings, layers, and offsets; I have often grown them from the latter; but I have found the foliage so apt to go off them, and leave the plants naked at the bottom, that I greatly prefer cuttings, which, with good treatment, will retain their foliage green and healthy almost to the rims of the pots. The best time for putting in cuttings is the latter end of April, or the beginning of May. I use the points of the best shoots of the current year's wood, not more than two or three inches in length, cutting them close to a joint, and removing the bottom leaves. When potted, I transfer them to a close frame; and if it is convenient, I assist their striking by means of a gentle bottom-heat, but this is not absolutely necessary, for they strike readily without it. I shade for a few hours in the day-time, until they have taken root, when I give them plenty of air, and pinch out their tops, which causes them to break freely. When the shoots have grown an

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inch or two in length, I pot into three-inch pots, in a mixture of turfy loam and one-third rotten dung, selecting the strongest and bushiest plants, and discarding the rest. When potted, I again place them in a close frame, and shade a little until they have made fresh roots. They are afterwards set out of doors, sufficiently far apart to prevent their being drawn, and kept well supplied with water. When the shoots have grown three or four inches in length, I again pinch out their tops, in order to make them bushy; and after they have grown an inch in length, I shift the plants into six-inch pots, placing them again in their former situation; and when they have filled the pots well with roots, I repot them into nine-inch pots, in which I flower them, using the same compost as before. I now place them thinly in a nice open place, where they have a free circulation of air: this keeps them dwarf and healthy. I keep the pots clear of weeds and suckers, water them as often as they require it, and when they have fairly set their flower-buds, I give them some good clear manure-water twice a week, or more or less, according to the state of the weather. About the beginning of October, I remove some of the most forward plants under glass, giving them plenty of air during the day. The others are taken as they are required, or as the weather may render necessary; for, though hardy, the chrysanthemum will not stand more than four or five degrees of frost, without sustaining some injury. I bloom here every year about one hundred and fifty plants, varying from one to two feet high, and having from twenty-five to thirty full blown flowers on each plant, many of which do not require a single stake to support them. It may be worth while to remark that, if some of the most promising shoots of out-door plants are layered in the beginning of September, by giving them a twist, and pegging them down a few inches below the surface of the ground, so as to make young plants about ten inches high, they will be well rooted in three weeks, *i.e.* if

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they are kept watered. When rooted, they may be taken up and potted in six-inch pots, and placed in a close frame for a few days, while they make fresh roots; afterwards they should have plenty of air. Plants managed in this way are very suitable for the front shelves of the stage, or for mixing with other plants. The earliest and best flowering of the plants I take cuttings from are selected and planted in any vacant places in the shrubberies, all the shoots being first shortened back to within six inches of the pot. This causes them to make more shoots, which are again stopped, thus keeping the plants dwarf and in due bounds, and inducing them to bloom at a season when few flowers adorn the garden.—T. R.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

AWARDS OF THE NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We subjoin a report of the awards of the National Floricultural Society, from July, 1853, to February, 1854. We trust it will prove highly interesting and useful to our readers. The following were awarded

FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICATES.

Hollyhock, *Glory of Cheshunt.* Habit vigorous; spike close, long, and well filled; flowers of good substance, with smooth guard petal, and high, close, and well-filled centre; colour vivid rose. Rewarded for general excellence. From Messrs. A. Paul & Son, Cheshunt.

Verbena, *Islington Rival.* Habit of Robinson's Defiance; truss bold and well formed; pips large, well formed, and of good substance; colour bright rosy scarlet. From Mr. G. Smith, Hornsey-road.

Verbena, *Incomparable.* Truss rather flat, but well filled; pips large, of good form and substance; colour delicate lavender, with small greenish yellow eye. Rewarded as a novel and beautiful variety. From Mr. Bragg, Slough.

Dahlia, *Fanny Keynes.* Form good; size full; petals of firm substance; colour pale yellowish buff, tipped with purplish lake. Rewarded for general good properties, as well as novelty of colour. From Mr. Keynes, Salisbury.

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Dahlia, *Rachel Rawlings.* Form first-rate; size medium; petals of good substance; colour peach. Rewarded for its general excellence. From Mr. Keynes, Salisbury.

Hollyhock, *Beauty of Cheshunt.* Spike first-rate; flowers with even well-filled centre, and stout smooth guard petal; substance good; colour bright rose. Rewarded for its general good qualities. From Messrs. Paul and Son, Cheshunt.

Hollyhock, *Lizzie.* Spike noble; flowers large, of good form and substance, with even stout guard petal; colour delicate pink. Rewarded for general good properties. From Messrs. Paul and Son, Cheshunt.

Hollyhock, *Isaac Walton.* Spike good; form and substance good; size rather below medium; colour French white, with chocolate ground. Rewarded for distinctness of colour. From G. Holmes, Esq., Norwich.

Verbena, *Fair Rosamond.* Truss good average; flowers large, well-formed, and of good substance, a little cupped; colour bright lilac, with small rosy botch on upper side of eye, and a narrow white zone beneath, the eye small purplish. Rewarded for novelty and pleasing arrangement of colour. Sweet-scented. From Mr. Bragg, Slough.

Dahlia, *Beauty of Slough.* Form first-rate, with full centre; size full; petals stout and smooth; colour blush, white ground, with mottled edging of crimson purple. Rewarded for its general excellence. From Mr. Bragg, Slough.

Dahlia, *Marvel.* Form rather flat; size full; substance good; petals smooth; colour orange-yellow, mottled and striped with bright red. Rewarded for its striking advance on existing striped fancy flowers. From Mr. Pope, Pimlico.

Dahlia, *Ringleader.* Outline first-rate, centre low; size medium, with good depth; petals smooth, finely cupped, and very evenly arranged; colour ruby red. Rewarded for its first-rate properties, wanting only a more elevated centre. From G. Holmes, Esq., Norwich.

Hollyhock, *Pearl.* Form excellent, having a high well-formed centre, and a well-proportioned smooth guard petal; colour delicate blush, with a paler guard petal. Rewarded for general good properties. From Mr. Chater, Saffron Walden.

Dahlia, *Colonel Baker.* Form excellent, outline first-rate, eye prominent; size medium; substance good; colour canary or primrose. Rewarded for general excellence. From Mr. Dodds, Salisbury.

Verbena, *Caliban.* Truss large; form and substance good; size average; colour violet and rose shaded. Rewarded for general good properties and desirable colour. From Mr. G. Smith, Hornsey-road.

Dahlia, *King of the Yellows.* Outline good; size average; petals deep, well defined, and smooth; colour bright yellow. From Mr. Collier, Bethnal Green.

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CERTIFICATES OF MERIT.

Pink, *Great Criterion.* Flower of fine form and substance, full size, and smooth texture; colour clear white ground, evenly and distinctly laced with purple. Rewarded for its large distinct bold petals, with large space of ground colour. From Dr. Maclean, Colchester.

Scarlet Pelargonium, *Glory.* Habit dwarf, close; truss large and perfect, retaining its centre pips until the whole are fully developed; form medium; substance good; colour bright deep scarlet; foliage horse-shoe marked. Rewarded as a variety desirable either for bedding purposes or for pot culture. From Mr. Bragg, Slough.

Hybrid Bourbon Rose, *Vivid.* Habit vigorous climbing; flowers cup-shaped, of medium size, with smooth stout petals; colour bright scarlet crimson; foliage good. Rewarded for brilliancy of colour, combined with good form and habit. A most desirable addition to the climbing roses. From Messrs. A. Paul and Son, Cheshunt.

Moss Rose, *Princess Alice.* Habit vigorous; flowers of medium size, very double; form flat; substance average; colour pale pink, with deep pink centre; branches and foliage well mossed. Rewarded as a most desirable addition to moss roses. From Messrs. A. Paul and Son, Cheshunt.

Verbena, *Standard.* Truss well arranged; pips flat; form good; full size; colour lilac rose, with a yellow eye, shaded with crimson. Rewarded for its general good properties. From Mr. Bragg, Slough.

Picotee, *Ariel.* Form indifferent; size full; petals of good substance, their edges very smooth; colour fine wire-edged rose. Rewarded for substance of petal, smoothness of edge, and purity of the white It would have received a higher award had the form of the flower been better. From Mr. C. Turner, Slough.

Verbena, *Triumph.* Truss good; form and substance good; size medium; colour reddish crimson, fading to heavy rose, rather darker around the centre, eye light. Rewarded for distinctness of colour and general good properties. From Mr. G. Smith, Hornsey-road.

Dahlia, *Blanche.* Form and substance good; size full; colour creamy white. Rewarded as a useful flower for general purposes. The censors thought it likely to merit a higher award, if shown again. From Mr. Church, Dulwich.

Dahlia, *Lady Mary Labouchere.* Form fair; size medium; substance of petal good; colour white, tipped with purplish lilac. Rewarded as a useful flower. An improvement on Miss Vyse. From Mr. Turner, Slough.

Dahlia, *Leader.* Form and substance good; size medium; colour deep lilac, ticked and faintly striped with maroon. Re-

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warded as an improvement in the striped class. From Mr. Keynes, Salisbury.

Hollyhock, *Felicia*. Spike first-rate, close, and well-arranged; flowers good, but rather loose; guard petal good; size full; substance fine; colour deep blush. From Mr. Bircham, Bungay.

Hollyhock, *Sentinel*. Spike good; form bold, but irregular; size large; substance good; colour ruby crimson. From Mr. Bircham, Bungay.

Hollyhock, *Mrs. Moulding*. Spike good; guard petal smooth and good, the centre neatly arranged, but rather flat; substance good; colour creamy white, delicately shaded with rose, and changing, as the flower advances in age, to spotted cherry. From Mr. Turner, Slough.

Hollyhock, *Eugene*. Spike good; flowers compact, but with a somewhat irregular centre; guard petals first-rate; size medium; substance good; colour pale saffron, shaded with pink. In the way of Triumphans, but with an improved guard petal. From Mr. Chater, Saffron Walden.

Hollyhock, *Professor Dick*. Spike bold; flowers close, with high centre, and good guard petals; colour shaded buff. From Messrs. Paul and Son, Cheshunt.

Gladiolus, *Bowiensis*. Habit vigorous; spike branched; flowers large, bold, and of good substance; colour vivid scarlet, with crimson purple bars in throat, the lower segments of the perianth faintly barred with dull crimson. Rewarded as a bold and distinct variety for bedding.

Dahlia, *Margaret*. Form average, rather flat; size medium; substance good; colour canary, with a mottled lacing of rosy purple, and a small greenish yellow tip. Rewarded for general usefulness, together with novelty of colour and marking. From Mr. Dodds, Salisbury.

Dahlia, *Primrose Perfection*. Form good, with first-rate centre; size large; petals firm, somewhat pointed; colour clear primrose. Rewarded for general usefulness. From Mr. Keynes, Salisbury.

Hollyhock, *Glory*. Form and centre average, with a well-proportioned smooth guard petal; colour primrose, with a paler guard petal. From Messrs. Paul and Son, Cheshunt.

Hollyhock, *Lilac Perfection*. Spike good; form and sub-substance good; size medium; colour silvery blush, suffused with lilac, purple base. Rewarded for general good properties, and distinctness of colour. From Mr. Chater, Saffron Walden.

Dahlia, *John Keynes*. Form good; substance medium; size full; colour dull salmon. Rewarded for general usefulness. From Mr. Dodds, Salisbury.

Dahlia, *Golden Eagle*. Outline fine; size medium, with good depth of petal; substance good; colour rich golden fawn. Rewarded for general usefulness. From Mr. Holmes, Hornchurch.

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Dahlia, *Magnet*. Outline good, eye rather low; size large; substance good; colour ruby crimson. Rewarded for general usefulness. From Mr. Kimberley, Coventry.

Dahlia *Ariel*. Form good, eye prominent; size small; substance medium; colour shaded peach. Rewarded for general usefulness. From Mr. Alexander, Leyton.

Fuchsia, *Dominiana*. A hybrid between F. spectabilis and F. serratifolia, partaking much of the habit of the former; colour, tube rosy scarlet, sepals tipped with green, corolla vermilion scarlet. The award was given to the plant No. 3, and was not intended to apply to the plant No. 1. From Mr. Veitch, Chelsea.

Verbena, *Mrs. D. Tyssen*. Habit dwarf and short-jointed; truss large, close; flowers flat and smooth, of good substance; colour blush, with bold decided crimson eye.

LABELS OF COMMENDATION.

Pink, *Earl of Derby*. Flowers of good form, large size, and good substance; petals smooth; colour rosy purple, heavily laced. From Mr. Looker, Oxford.

Delphinium, *Pulchrum*. Flowers large, of good form and substance; colour lavender blue, with a pink blotch at the top of each division; foliage good. Rewarded as being distinct from existing varieties. From Mr. J. F. Wood, Nottingham.

Verbena, *Ne plus ultra*. Truss small; pips large, of average form; colour French white, with very large rose centre, and yellow eye. Rewarded for novel and peculiar marking. From Mr. Bragg, Slough.

Verbena, *Joseph Hume*. Habit very dwarf and compact; form medium; colour rich purple, with white eye; foliage good. Rewarded on account of its compact habit, which renders it well adapted for bedding out. From Messrs. Gill, Westbourne Grove, Paddington.

Antirrhinum, *Constance*. Form inferior, the lower lip being too small; colour, upper lip purple crimson, lower of the same colour, tipped with white, centre or palate pale yellow, tube white. Rewarded for novelty of marking and pureness of the tube. From Mr. J. Salter, Hammersmith.

Phlox, *Madame Celeste*. Truss compact; form good; size medium; colour white, with bright purple eye. Rewarded for general good properties. From Mr. J. Salter, Hammersmith.

Carnation, *Phaeton*. Colour bright scarlet flake. Rewarded for colour and good marking. From Mr. Headley, Cambridge.

Potentilla, *Salterii*. Colour fiery scarlet. Commended on account of its brilliant colour, but deficient in size and form. From Mr. J. Salter, Hammersmith.

Dahlia, *Marvel*. Colour yellow ground, ticked and striped with red. Rewarded for the brightness of its colours. From Mr. Pope, Pimlico.

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Hollyhock, *Zenobia.* Flower large, rather loose; colour creamy buff, with light chocolate ground. Rewarded for novelty of colours. From Messrs. Paul and Son, Cheshunt.

Hollyhock, *Aurantia Superba.* Guard petals rough; centre rather coarse; substance good; colour deep salmon. A different shade of colour to any existing varieties. From Mr. Bircham, Bungay.

Fancy Dahlia, *Admiration.* Form medium, the face flat and the outline irregular; size medium; colour white ground, bordered with crimson. Rewarded for its showiness as a fancy flower. From Mr. Green, High Cross, near Ware.

Fancy Dahlia, *Lady Emma.* Form rather flat, with irregular outline; size medium; colour shaded marone, with white tips. Rewarded for its apparent constancy and general usefulness. From Mr. Hunt, Paddington.

Hollyhock, *Emperor.* Form and substance medium; size large; colour pleasing rose. Rewarded for its size, fine spike, and pleasing colour. From Mr. Roake, Clewer.

Petunia, *Novelty.* Habit dwarf and neat; flowers free, though somewhat small; colour blotched lilac. Desirable for its good qualities as a bedding plant. From Mr. Kimberley, Coventry.

Verbena, *Attraction.* Truss rather small, the circle broken, the centre scarcely filled; form deficient; colour pale lilac, with large conspicious primrose eye. Rewarded for its distinctness. From E. Banks, Esq., Deal.

Dahlia, *Mount Alexander.* Outline good, but the petals too prominently ribbed, and the centre low; size full; substance stout; colour rich deep yellow. The censors thought the centre would have been better developed at an earlier period of the season. From the Rev. W. Skynner, Rushton.

Fuchsia, *Telegraph.* Habit good, suitable for exhibition; tube rather small; sepals narrow but well reflexed; corolla smooth, but too open; colour, crimson scarlet tube and sepals, purple corolla. From Mr. G. Smith, Hornsey Road.

HYDRANGEA HORTENSIS FLORE PLENO.—This very beautiful new plant was originated, we believe, in Paris, and all who have seen the noble shrub, with single flowers, in the south of England, will be able to form some conception of the beauty of this, with large heads, composed of double blooms. That it will be much in requisition we have no doubt. The stock is in the hands of Messrs. Henderson.

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NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY, APRIL 6.—A certificate was awarded to a pansy, called Memnon, exhibited by Mr. Turner. It is a large flower, colour dark purple marone, smooth, and of good texture; three blooms were exhibited. A certificate was also awarded to the same for cineraria Sir C. Napier, a dark indigo blue kind, with broad petals of good substance; also a label of commendation for a pretty alpine auricula, named King of Crimsons. This is a neat round flower, buff ground, with shaded crimson edges. Mr. Bousie, of Stoke Park, contributed a finely bloomed plant of his seedling cineraria, Rose of England, which on a former occasion received a label of commendation. This one, however, it was awarded a certificate. Two well-bloomed plants were also sent of Bousie's Optima, a large, clear, bold cineraria, pure white, with deep blue tips. This variety recieved a certificate in 1853. It is a fine flower. Mr. Clark sent cineraria, Beauty of Streatham Place, but it was not in good condition. It has a white ground, with deep purple edge, inclined to cup; the footstalks are quite hard and wiry. Messrs. Lee sent a cineraria, named Star, white, tipped with bright rose; a showy variety, but not of the best form. There were a few promising auriculas, a polyanthus, and a box of thirty fine blooms of pansies, from Mr. Turner. The best of them consisted of Victory, Comet, Uncle Tom, Emperor, Monarch, Fair Rosamond, Sovereign, Royal Standard, Earl Mansfield, Satisfaction, Lord John Russell, Lord Palmerston, National, and Sir John Cathcart.

We do not know what would become of us, were there not always something *new*. Lists are looked at for novelties, and because "oh, its new!" it must be bought. Now we have been affected with this mania to our cost, for we find that many novelties, especially amongst fruit trees, are a dead weight on our hands. We can always sell plenty of such sorts as Dovebank, Orleans, Denyer's Victoria, and Green-

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gage plums, &c.; but though Reine Claude de Bavey may be of large size and splendid flavour, though Chapman's Prince of Wales may be prolific to a fault, and Huling's Superb a splendid sort, which should be grown by everybody, with many others of similar character, which we could name, still, as people have not seen them, and as they say "seeing is believing," the old sorts are yet the best in a commercial point of view. For our own part, we find our stock of these trees in advance of the requirements of our customers. We are led to make these remarks by having had many inquiries for new peas and cucumbers particularly; but the question is, whether the sorts advertised really are so amazingly superior to well known varieties as the advertisements specify.

Horticultural Society of London, April 18.—The room, on this occasion, contained a fine display of beautiful objects, and a corresponding number of prizes was carried off. Messrs. Standish & Noble, of Bagshot, exhibited a "worked" example of Rhododendron Edgworthii, in bloom; but owing to its having been forced into that condition somewhat prematurely, in order to be in time for the meeting, the two large white blossoms which it had produced were not at all nicely expanded, and the delicious fragrance for which this species is so remarkable was only just perceptible in them. From the thick coating of brown fur in which this plant is enveloped, it was thought that it might possibly prove hardy; but such has not been the case, for it was mentioned that it had been killed, last winter, in the Society's garden and elsewhere, while R. ciliatum and one or two others have survived. The same firm also sent a hybrid rhododendron called Alstrœmerioides, for which a certificate of merit was awarded. It is remarkable for its showy heads of small rosy flowers, which are covered all over with little dark-coloured bars, like those on the blossoms of some alstrœmeria.

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It is a Continental kind, whose history is unknown; but, be its origin what it may, it must certainly be considered an acquisition. Messrs. Standish & Noble, likewise furnished an indigofera from the north of China, which, although said to be hardy, is not by any means so handsome as I. decora; and a white semi-double Chinese azalea, called Narcissiflora, which will doubtless become a favourite. Several small plants of the latter, each bearing a cluster of blossoms, were produced, so show how freely it blooms, even in a small state. Both this and the indigofera were stated to have been introduced by Mr. Fortune. Messrs. Lee contributed a collection of plants consisting of two well-grown specimens of eriostemon, Pultenæa biloba, two azaleas—one vittata, the other the pretty little purple A. amœna,—several epacrises, and a dish of kitchen apples, called in Hampshire "Duran," and which appeared to be a good keeper. A Banksian medal was awarded for the plants. Messrs. Lane furnished three charming rhododendrons, in the shape of good sized trees of R. campanulatum, a variety of the same, called General Napier, and a thick bush, profusely ornamented with compact heads of delicate white flowers, vividly bordered with pink. For these a Banksian medal was awarded. From Messrs. Henderson, of Pine-apple Place, came four pots of the hardy, yellow flowered, scentless Patagonian violet, called pyrolæfolia, an oxylobium, and a well cultivated plant of Maranta sanguinea, the beauty of which consist in the red floral leaves which cover the flowers, and not the flowers themselves, which are small polished bodies entirely hid from view. A certificate of merit was awarded for the violets. Messrs. Lucombe & Pince received a similar award for Calceolaria Ajax, a dwarf, shrubby, bedding kind, remarkable for its great trusses of brown and yellow blossoms, which require no sticks to support them, owing to its sturdy habit. It was stated to be from Sultan, crossed with some high-coloured shrubby variety. It is not quite new, a

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promising plant of it having been exhibited to the Society last year. Mr. Keeble, gr. to H. Davies, Esq., received a certificate of merit for a very finely flowered Tropæolum tricolorum, covering most completely a circular wire trellis some four feet in diameter. From Mr. Gaines came Rhododendron aureum, R. dilectum, and the strikingly high-coloured azalea named Holfordiana, for which a certificate of merit was awarded. Mr. Dobson, of Woodlands Nursery, Isleworth, contributed eight cinerarias, well flowered and skilfully cultivated, for which a certificate of merit was awarded; and four pots of a double-flowered variegated polyanthus. The other subjects specially invited by the Society for this meeting were cauliflowers and cherries; of the former none made their appearance, while of the latter there was only one dish, which was furnished by Mr. Fleming, gr. to the Duke of Sutherland, at Trentham, and consisted of May Duke, large, plump, and well coloured. A Banksian medal was deservedly awarded them. Some Keens' Seedling strawberries came from J. Allnutt, Esq., of Clapham; and Mr. Bennett, gr. to J. Smith, Esq., of Dulwich, received a certificate of merit for a dish of finely grown British Queen strawberries; which, although rather pale in colour, were, to all appearance, quite ripe. Mr. Spray, of Brighton, exhibited six well-coloured bunches of Black Hamburgh grapes, for which a certificate of merit was awarded. Mr. John Edwards produced three punnets of potatoes, the first containing Lapstone Kidney; the second Fluke, a Lancashire sort, said never to have been attacked by disease; and the third a seedling from the Fluke. From the garden of the Society came Indigofera decora, the large-flowering Azalea calycina; Epacris grandiflora, the broad-leaved Daviesia; two boronias, two chorozemas, a well grown plant of Bauera rubioides, and beautiful clusters of cut flowers of the white Glycine sinensis, and also of the ordinary form of that plant, both of which were found by Mr. Fortune in the woods of Chusan, the

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only place where it has yet been seen wild. Along with these came fruits of Citrus japonica, or Cum Quat (a favourite Chinese preserve), from a plant which has just begun to bear in the garden. The fruit is small, oblong, and orange-coloured. It is preserved in sugar by the Chinese. The rind of the fruit is extremely fragrant. The garden also supplied some Neapolitan cabbage lettuces, a portion of which had been grown under Mr. Pilkington's bell glasses, which differ from the French cloche in having a ventilator at the top, in the shape of a neck or chimney, which can be left open or kept close as may be desired, by covering it over or not with another small bell glass, made for the purpose. In this way damp from the soil, which is often so destructive to winter lettuces, can be let off without tilting up the side or moving the bell glass in any way, as has to be done in the case of cloches, whenever air is given. The result of this trial has been very satisfactory—for, of a ridge of lettuces planted out last October, those which had bell glasses put over them on the 27th of last month, have attained nearly double the size of such as were left unprotected; but which, in all other respects, were treated precisely like them. It was mentioned, however, that bell glasses can, unfortunately, only be had in the neighbourhood of places where they are made; for, owing to the difficulty of packing them in small compass, the packing and carriage cost more than the original value of the glasses themselves.

Hardiness of New Pears.—The unusual severity of the late frosts and long continuance of easterly winds having injured the crop of many sorts of pears, besides other fruits, it appears desirable to record such of the new varieties as have proved hardy in my small stock:—Poire d'Avril, Susette de Bavay, Soldat Esperen, and Belle apres Noel, were without blemish on the south-west wall (the abundant fruit of the latter, beautifully coloured, much resembled small

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peaches); on a south-east, aspect Triomphe de Jodoigne and Elise de Heyst were also good. Among older varieties, the following escaped with a very few cracked or spoted, although the flavour suffered for want of sun, viz., Easter Beurré, Beurré Rance, and Glout Morceau on a south-east wall; Beurré Dial on north-east and north-west walls; Vicar of Winkfield, Broom Park, and Seckle, on pyramids; and Ne Plus Meuris, on a south-west aspect. If persons in other places, possessing more of the new varieties, would also note their success this season, it might be of assistance in making future selections.—J. ABELL, *Limerick.—Gardeners' Chronicle.*

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Would you oblige me by answering in your next publication the following questions:—Suppose two brother florists, old and true friends, and each having a collection of tulips; presuming one to die in the month of March, and the relatives of the deceased at once inform the survivor that he may have all the bulbs left by his late friend, of course the survivor will have to exercise every care in looking after the bulbs two months before the exhibitions, therefore, under these circumstances, do you consider it legal for the survivor to show the blooms in his own name, and take prizes, without there being any grounds for dispute? In some of the rules, it mentions that all tulips must be the *bona fide* growth and property of the exhibiter. Be kind enough to let me have your opinion. T. B., A SUBSCRIBER.

We consider the case which T. B. has submitted to us would, if carried out, lead to much dissatisfaction. The bulbs undoubtedly would belong to the survivor; but if stands of six blooms were shown at Manchester, and T. B. was a competitor, he would, as a matter of course, have two chances, by growing in two gardens, and having two collections to cut from, and his opponents would undoubtedly say it was not right. The harmony and proper working of floral societies is an object of so great importance, that we would not in any case recommend any one to show from a tulip bed in a garden belonging to another person, though the bulbs were *bona fide* his own property, unless he had permission to do so from his brother florists. We have known this ASKED AND OBTAINED, and thus all discord was avoided.

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HOLLYHOCKS.—We should have something to do, perhaps, to tell you the best twenty-four. It often happens, if a packet of seed is bought, that one or two of the produce eclipses the parents, and from this cause we have flowers bearing different names which are extremely similar. That there is an immense improvement there can be no doubt, and glad are we to find that the noble old flower, which we admired when a boy, and which, in the south of England especially, reared itself majestically before many a cottage door, has, with the florists' care, so improved in appearance as to be patronized by all who are fond of beauty, combined with stateliness. They are propagated easily by cuttings, and perhaps you, with many other of our readers, may be surprised to learn that the fine variety, Black's Charles Turner, so much like Walden Gem, had at least one hundred plants made from it, the first season, a tolerably good speculation, at ten shillings and sixpence each. As for your chief question, some of the best are named by one of our correspondents, in last month's number; but we would advise you to attend the Derby national carnation and picotee show, where hollyhocks will, we believe, make one of the principal features, and there select for yourself.

R. S.—THE TROUT PEAR.—Yes, you will find it a handsome as well as an excellent variety. It is very productive, and keeps till the latter end of November. It is called Trout in consequence of having spots on the skin, similar to those of the fish bearing that name.

ZERO.—Your land covered with coarse twitch grass should be pared four inches deep, the sods being cut square with a spade, or "floating tool," called here a breast plough. After being cut, they may be placed on end, leaning against each other, turf side inwards. By this means they dry, so that when a fire is made, they burn readily. The land may be deeply dug, and the ashes spread on the surface, and "pointed in" with the spade. These ashes will ameliorate the soil, and it will probably bring a good crop of six-week turnips. The hoeings which this crop requires, would aid in keeping the land clean.

AMICUS.—PROPAGATING PIT.—We would not advise you to have your tanks made of cement. We have one built on arches, and done in the best manner, and it is by no means satisfactory. It will crack and leak, do what we may. We should think that four-inch pipes, running through a bed of coarse sand, would be far preferable.

H. SYMONDS.—GREENHOUSE STAGES.—We have, this season, seen a span roof house, fitted with large slabs of limestone, immediately over the flues, answer admirably. They are clean, require no painting, and the plants flourish amazingly. In answer to your query as to six suitable plants, that would

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afford plenty of flowers, and not require much attention, to train up the rafters of your conservatory, we would recommend a scarlet passion flower, Clematis azurea, Wistaria sinensis, which, though strong, is very beautiful in a conservatory.

RHODODENDRONS.—W. P.—You may fertilize the blossoms of your greenhouse varieties now. It is very easily done. Choose the most striking flowers. When the hardy ones are in bloom, they also must be attended to. Write the name of the flower from which the farina is taken on a small wooden label, and tie it immediately under the truss of flowers operated upon. By this means, you will know the pedigree or lineage of your seedlings, when they bloom.

DIANTHUS.—R. S.—They are a beautiful family, and great favourites with us. Of course, the double ones do not produce seed, but small laterals easily root in the autumn. We can give you a list of a few, well worth growing. *Napoleon*, bright scarlet, double. *Constellation*, pure white, double. *Climax*, crimson-edged white, double. *Pater's Mule*, pink, rose centre, double. *Edwardsii*, crimson, white centre and margin, single. *Mutabilis*, pink and white, double. The old double white. *Splendidissima*, double crimson. We have seen some other fine ones named, but we would advise our correspondent to devote himself to raising seedlings.

GLADIOLUS.—B.—The variety called M. Blonet, is a brilliant red, and should be grown in every collection. We believe the price is about two shillings and sixpence, though they may be obtained much cheaper on the Continent.

VINES.—AMATEUR.—These are usually struck from eyes, but they will grow easily from cuttings, put in the open ground. These, however, do not make such handsome plants for sale.

TULIPS.—I. S. T.—They are much earlier than usual this season. Your best opportunity of seeing some of the finest flowers in the kingdom, will be at the Regent's Park, on the 24th. You will learn a good deal as to properties, &c. if you are only observant.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS,

FOR MAY.

IN the greenhouse much care must be taken to prevent the ravages of the aphis, or greenfly. During the late hot weather, they have multiplied amazingly, where left unheeded. Calceo-

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larias, verbenas, cinerarias, and other soft-wooded plants are especially liable to their attacks. Where possible, the amateur should grow calceolarias in a small house or frame by themselves, as they delight in a warm and moist atmosphere. Geraniums should have an occasional watering with liquid manure. Give air on all suitable occasions, shutting up early in the afternoon. Prick out in small pots any tender annuals that may be required for greenhouse decoration, during the latter part of the summer; and take advantage of showery weather to plant out stocks, chinasters, &c. Groups of verbenas may now be planted. They should previously be gradually hardened, for the transition from a sheltered humid atmosphere to an exposed situation, will often cause a serious check.

In the florists' department, tulips will require much attention. In the south of England, owing to the earliness of the season, the awnings over some of the beds are already put up. There appears to be a sad fatality amongst the collections of several florists of our acquaintance. In one instance, a large collection has vanished, with the exception of a few bulbs. Some of the most healthy stocks that we are acquainted with, are grown on beds raised at least two feet from the surrounding surface. In the cases where the loss has been sustained, the beds were nearly level. Thus evidencing that an effectual drainage is highly necessary for these valuable bulbs. Dahlias should be planted towards the middle of the month. The soil should be well prepared and rich; in fact, to grow dahlias successfully, a great amount of attention as to watering with liquid manure will be required. As the plants get hold of the ground, the stakes to which they are to be tied should be put down, at the same time placing a portion of moss between each plant and the stake, to prevent chafing. Inverted halfpeck pots should be placed over them on cold chilly nights. Auriculas and polyanthuses are forwarder than usual, and in many cases will be past their best, though in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and further north, they may be in their prime. Save any novel finely marked bloom of either of these beautiful spring flowers, even though they may happen to be "pin-eyed;" as seed saved from these may possibly retain their novel character, with the addition of being "thrum-eyed," and thus proving valuable. Reduce all the spindling shoots of pinks to three, if the plants are strong. By cutting back these a quantity of pipings will be forced of a nice size for striking. Place small sticks to the plants, and mulch the beds with rotten manure. If the ranunculus beds are infested with worms, which is sometimes the case, stir a little quick lime in water, and when clear, pour it between the rows with a small watering can. We have known the lime-water applied as soon as mixed, giving the beds a slovenly and mortarlike appearance.

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

PROVOKING TO THOUGHT.

We need this kind of provocation very often. Do not say it is a libel, my dear florist reader. The true florist has indeed a mind most intense in its activity; his feelings are ever acute; his sensibilities never blunted. But nevertheless he may need provoking to thought. I may provoke you to think as beforetime you never have thought, and you in a thousand modes may render to me a similar good service. Glancing over the pages of our *Midland*, as is my frequent wont in my brief hours of leisure, I find an amount of practical direction valuable beyond comparison,—pages of eloquent and scientific deduction for which the authors deserve immortal thanks,—moot points logically discussed, if not disposed of,—abundance of close and clever description,—an infinite variety of admirably gossipping descriptive papers, full of amiability, bits here and there of the truest poetry, and voluminous reports of passing events, as profitable for reference as interesting in their occurrence. But with all this, here and there,—at long intervals let us boast,—we want provoking to thought. One of the latest little escapades I remember is due to our amiable editor. At page 197, for last year, he writes thus—"Our experience of the show at Nottingham, this year, leads us to think there are certain fundamental rules which ought to be abided by at every exhibition, and we think the plan adopted at York was the best. We hope our readers who are interested in the matter will take the subject into consideration; and though dictation is no part of our policy, yet we trust a kindly suggestion may not be out of place.

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We think then that our Nottingham committee would have done better by naming three days, and forwarding voting papers to each exhibiter, so that a majority might fix the period of exhibition. The same ought to be done with the judges; those with a majority of votes taking the precedence. This plan would silence all complaints as to time or efficiency." Now I cannot help thinking that at least nine out of every ten of the readers of these few lines, felt the full force of our dear editor's unaffected humility, cordially admired his excellent prelude, and came most satisfactorily to the full assurance that "this plan would silence all complaints as to time or efficiency." What a necessity for thought! It must be understood the subject under notice was the national tulip exhibition, that a question had arisen as to the day selected, and much dissatisfaction had been created as to the anomalous decisions of the judges. Let us see how this plan would silence complaint as to *time*. National exhibitions, by a combination of efforts, enable the florist to produce effects, and secure a position before the public otherwise not attainable, at the same time that a gratification of the highest order is secured to him. All will see, readily, that the effect produced, and the enjoyment to be derived, depends most materially upon the largest combination of skilled effort. This is the desideratum conferred by the majority. But would the largest combination of skilled effort be secured by naming three days and requiring each expected exhibiter to select one? Let us suppose sixty persons interested, and that three days were named. As a natural consequence these persons would be divided into three bodies, and assuming them to be nearly balanced,—no violent improbability—and that twenty-one voted for the first day, twenty for the second, and nineteen for the third, a minority of twentyone would really out-vote thirty-nine. Would this silence complaint as to time? Would it secure the largest combination of skilled effort?

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Then as to the judges. By the plan proposed a selection of names would be made by the committee appointed to manage the exhibition, the exhibiters again selecting from this list, and electing by a majority. On the surface, nothing can seem more facile than this proceeding, and our admiration is excited in about the same proportion with our assurance of the happiness of the result. But a turn of the kaleidoscope suggests a difficulty. We have just agreed upon the acuteness of the florist's sensibilities. We remember that a selection in the terms propounded involves a rejection, and our imagination vividly portrays the mortification and annoyance inflicted upon the rejected. Our sense of justice too sternly asks what right had we thus to slight men,—of all men most jealous of their place—what right without their leave to afflict them with the knowledge of the small esteem in which their fellows hold them? Answer to the question we have none, so we seek in action to evade the passing remorse created,—the election at any rate is a fact, and it is not in the nature of things human to reap good without evil No sooner, however, have we asserted the election a fact, than another difficulty looms ahead. We have "called spirits from the vasty deep," but Hotspur's unpleasant question, "will they come, coz, when you do call them?" rises most ominously in our consciousness;—in other words, we find we cannot make the judges accept the duty devolved upon them, and the election proves a farce. These are not imaginary or exaggerated difficulties. The gentlemen originally requested to act at Nottingham, on various grounds, refused to do so; and if, from any cause, the best are set aside, it can in no way improve mediocrity or inexperience to make it the election of the majority, nor will such election silence complaint as to efficiency.

Having striven so far to provoke to thought, possibly I ought not to shrink from exposing myself to criticism. I say then, let not our nationals be

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encumbered with restrictions, which my experience and reflection alike condemn, but entrust their conduct only to men of approved experience, accompanying the trust with our generous confidence, and strengthening their hands with our willing service. Let the executive be few in number, and well chosen,—we may remember with advantage the old adage, "too many cooks spoil the broth,"—responsibility also, like gold, may be distributed so thinly over a large surface, that we fail to obtain any sense of its weight. Above all, let us show by our actively watchful regard how rigorously we shall exact an account of any misgovernment, and we shall hear little complaint of an inopportune time or inefficient judges.

Exercising such care, we shall be unlikely to elect bad servants,—each helping as he is able, we shall find little wanting in our annual feasts, and every succeeding year will increase the respect and regard for the productions of the florist which our national exhibitions are so well fitted to confer.

E. S. D.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF HYACINTHS.

BY ALPHA.

No. IV.

Bride of Lammermoor (Double Blue) is a flower possessing a lavender shade of colour, and reflexes well. These are its recommendations. The drawbacks are a long footstalk, want of shoulder to its bell, and a deficiency in trussing. It has a green centre, and some of the bells were partially tipped with green. This, I apprehend, is not a permanent feature, but probably the result of frost, although in some varieties it invariably occurs. The Queen of England, last season, presented this singular appearance, and this year it has flowered without it. The Bride may be kept for contrast, but certainly not on account of its intrinsic merits.

Cochineal. (Single Red.)—If the persons arranging the catalogue had appended a description stating its colour to be

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pale carmine, they would probably have been nearer the mark. One thing is certain, its claim to merit rests on colour alone, and a more truthful description should have been given of it. The colour is lively and brilliant in its shade, but the flower itself is the very essence of inferiority, and cannot properly be classed as a single variety, its centre being filled up with a solitary petal. The Dutchman's taste must certainly be at a low ebb, to preserve such a meagre-looking flower.

Esperance. (Single Red.)—This is not generally found in the catalogues, and may possibly have another name. It partakes too much of the character of Elizabeth, a flower well known in this class. No detailed account will be needed, as its properties are by no means first-rate.

Jenny Lind. (Single Red.)—I find I was enticed into a purchase of this sort on the supposition that the vocalist's name was an index of its merits, but I have found the reverse to be the fact; its colour, and that not particularly attractive, is the only recommendation. If an elongated bell and meagre-looking petals are the only properties that could be selected to represent the far-famed Jenny, I think the course pursued an extremely undignified one, and by no means flattering to the fair songstress.

Moliere. (Double Red.)—Described in the Catalogue as crimson. I really think the person describing its colour as crimson, must have had a fiery tinge imparted to his vision by the potations of some bacchanalian friend. Surely a correct description ought to have been given. The flower has some really pleasing points,—its colour is bright pink, of a deepe r shade than is found in one-half of those classed as reds; it may fairly be designated a lively rose. Its bells are beautifully reflexed. As regards size it is second-rate only, but the united good points it possesses entitle it to a place in the most select collection.

Maraud. (Single Blue.)—I have searched several catalogues to find a representation of this flower, but unsuccessfully; and I much regret this circumstance, as it is a variety any raiser might delight to name. Its only drawback, and that not a very conspicuous one, is in the size of the bells, which are a trifle below the average. It is worthy of the most extended cultivation, being a noble bed flower and trussing extremely well. It will have its admirers whenever viewed in its best state. Its colour is a resplendent indigo.

Othello. (Double Black.)—The description of this variety given in the catalogues states it to possess green tips. *Yes; green tips!!!* What a bait for a floricultural swallow! Surely I am not the first that has been taken in with glowing descriptions, enumerating meritorious properties, which, on blooming, are very often *non est inventus.* The venders evidently

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do themselves an injury by giving such alluring particulars to inferior subjects, as the one in question forcibly illustrates. Depending on the truth of its description, I became a purchaser, and at the time thought I ought to have had a Desdemona. Anxiously did I watch its appearance as it emerged from the soil, anticipating in every streak of colour the fancied realization of "black, with green tips;" but, as in the old fable, the mountain brought forth a mouse. With its advancement my expectations receded, until its full expansion told me, to use a florist's phraseology, that I was "done," and that intense interest had been uselessly devoted to watching a starry-petalled worthless object,—dark enough it is true. Borrowing the words of our great dramatist, I wrote in my book, against this flower, "Othello's occupation's gone," as illustration of my regard for it. It has just occurred to me that possibly the venders were rather facetious, and intended the *green tip* to represent the person paying a decent price for an inferior article.

Richardson. (Single White.)—This flower is described in the catalogue as having a red eye. Here again I was doomed to disappointment, for a few grey-looking anthers were the only representatives of the red eye; and I soon discovered that I had two older varieties on my bed—Voltaire and Temple van Apollo—far better sorts than the flower transmitted to me under the name of Richardson.

Reine de Holland. (Single Blue.)—A royal name is worthily selected for a fine imposing variety, for such this sort really is. It ranks among the low-priced ones, but possesses far more attractive features, than others for which double the amount is asked. First and foremost in its good properties is a beautiful truss of finely-formed bells. The Queen of Holland, in point of merit, leads the van, and is worthy of the attention of every cultivator.

Sultan Achmet. (Double White.)—This may be termed a good old variety. It certainly does not reflex so well as some others of its class, but it occupies a very respectable position. It greatly resembles that old variety, Spheri Mundi, but, unlike that pretty sort, has flesh-coloured florets, instead of blue. It does not appear to produce a large truss, yet must be cultivated.

Venus. (Double White.)—This, though last on my list, is not the least in my estimation. It has a noble bell, fine outline, and is of good substance. It does not reflex quite to my taste, and the flowers are too far apart to form a dense truss, yet, with all her faults, the beauteous goddess is with me an especial favourite.

At the conclusion of my fourth list, my opinion remains the same,—with some exquisite gems,

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Mynheer contrives to introduce an unwelcome class to the real connoissieur, consisting of such varieties as should invariably be thrown into mixture; and until the catalogues are remodelled, reserving the gems and meritorious flowers only, so long will the amateur cultivator view them with a suspicious eye.

RIVAL POLYANTHUSES.

BULLOCK'S LANCER AND ADDIS'S KINGFISHER.

I WAS glad to see the remarks of your correspondent, William Harrison,—"Kingfisher *versus* Lancer,"—but at the same time, rather surprised at the conclusions arrived at by him.

I have grown them both, this season, from maiden plants, sent to me by Mr. S. Hammond, of Radford, whose name will be guarantee for their being correct; and they stand before me at this moment—Kingfisher with a truss of eight, and Lancer with seven pips.

Not having seen them in bloom before, I had dotted down a few remarks, as they had shown flower, which I find are quite contrary to those of Mr. H. Feeling that I could have no prejudice or favouritism to bias me—not knowing anything about the raisers of either plant—I was led to compare my remarks with W. H.'s, and to read his over again with more attention, and I find that while he *enlarges* upon the faults of Kingfisher, he not only hides those of Lancer, but does not allow one *permanent* good quality to the former.

Not feeling quite satisfied, either with your correspondent or with myself, I had recourse to *Glenny's Properties of Flowers*, to guide me. He says,

The edge should be scolloped, but not deeply; the pips, in other respects, circular.	On comparing them, in truss and in single pips, I find this quality in favour of Kingfisher.
The yellow eye perfectly round.	This also in favour of Kingfisher.

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The tube well filled with thrum.	Owing to the tube of Lancer not being so large, it has the *appearance* of having the advantage, but not in *reality*.
The centre of all the divisions of the pips similar to the side, the lacing to go down into the eye, and down the sides where they divide; lacing the same width all over, and the same colour as the eye.	About equal, with the exception of the third quality, *i.e.* "the lacing to go down the sides where they (the petals?) divide;" for out of fifteen pips on both plants, this quality is in favour of Kingfisher.
Truss not less than seven pips, which should touch at the edges, but not overlap, forming a rounding surface.	In my plants, there is no comparison; for out of the eight pips composing the truss of Kingfisher, by taking one away, it would be perfection; whereas with Lancer, owing to its close-growing habit, it would be difficult to form a truss at all.

It will thus be seen, that with me, taking Glenny for a criterion, Kingfisher is much the better flower. But there are other properties, possessed by both plants, which, in my opinion, ought not to be overlooked; for, in the plants before me, Kingfisher is much the larger flower, both in pip and truss, while Lancer has the advantage in foliage, or grass.

Such are a few of the observations made by me, and I shall conclude with the same wish as your correspondent, expressed in the words of Ann Boleyn, to Henry VII., "If at any time I have used words hurtful to your feelings, it has been done to elicit your opinions more fully, so that I might be guided by them."

ROWLAND.

THE SCHEDULE OF THE NATIONAL TULIP SHOW.

If there is one thing more than another which indicates the utility of these exhibitions, it is the assimilation of ideas as to the merits of any particular

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flower; the bringing together florists from remote districts, at least once a year, and thus removing prejudices against this system or the other, whilst all parties are benefitted by comparing notes, forming fresh acquaintances, &c. Independent of all this, a uniform standard is established; for should any system be adopted which is evidently erroneous, there are plenty of florists assembled to express a hostile opinion, and thus correct the mischief; or on the other hand to copy the good features, and embody them in their own regulations at home.

We are glad to find that the south country gentlemen have departed from their usual practice of exhibiting only in stands, but have combined with it what we always did, and always shall consider to be the best test of the merits of individual flowers, namely, class showing. Stands are all very well; but if we wanted to know the exact quality of a particular flower, we should look through the list of class shows in our pages; for though a certain flower might be in a first stand of six, still, in class showing, it might constantly be at the lowest point; therefore we do not consider stand showing so good a criterion of individual excellence, as that of exhibiting in classes. The stands of twelve and eighteen are a good feature, giving those a chance who may not have flowers of a particular character; for it sometimes happens you will hear a florist exclaim, "I am short of a feathered rose, or I should have a chance." He may have five splendid flowers, but being short of this necessary requirement, he is shut out of the competition. In the stands of twelve and eighteen, however, the florist can put in either feathered or flamed flowers, as suits him best, only confining himself to the requisite number of each colour. We are glad that the northern definition of a flamed flower is adopted,—and this is one of the results of "nationals." We recollect acting as censor with an eminent southern florist, some years

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ago, and in the class of flamed roses he selected several which had very little feather on the edge, in addition to the beam. We pointed out this defect, but he replied, "Oh, you know we are judging flamed flowers now." However, this point was then and there decided against him, and we now find that the beam and feather is *un fait accompli*, as far as a flamed flower goes. The other feature of a novel character is selecting the best flower in each class from every one in the room, whether it has won previously or not. This we think right, and worthy of adoption. But there is a point on which we have heard some murmurs, namely, that the losing stands are not to be broken up. Of this we are certain, that taking tulips from losing stands, and judging them with others, often causes much confusion and delay; and for our own part, we think that the florist may make his selection as to what he is likeliest to win in, and as he exercises his own judgment, if he fail, he has no one to blame but himself. Then again, we have a stand of breeders, a system long adopted in the north and midlands, where the production of good breeders has always been greatly encouraged, from the knowledge that however beautifully marked a flower might be, it was worthless, if it wanted form and purity; and as soon as the growers had made up their minds as to these two essential points, they set about improvement, and as amongst old flowers there were many which evidently must be discarded, *new blood, or a better breed* was to be sought in seedlings. Thus prizes were given for breeders, because a good flower could not come out of a bad breeder.

We fear we shall not have time to report the exhibition in this number, as the *Midland Florist* should be published and in London on the 26th, but our readers may expect a full report in our next.

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DESTRUCTION OF TULIPS.

We have learnt with sincere regret that the valuable tulip beds of Richard Headley, Esq., of Stapleford, near Cambridge, have again been destroyed. Two hundred and ten rows of the most superior varieties in cultivation are lost, or nearly so. Mr. Headley is convinced that some deleterious substance has been strewed over the beds, as the bulbs were all affected at the points, just as they were making their appearance above ground. On perceiving that the bulbs were so seriously affected, Mr. H. cut away a number of them nearly to the fibres, and these fortunately have thrown out offsets, whilst those which were uncut have rotted entirely. This is really very sad, and in connection with it, we may mention that the bed of Mr. Wm. Parkinson, of Derby, has suffered in a similar manner, but Mr. P. attributes it to want of drainage. Another collection at Derby, that of Messrs. Lakin, is also lost—all the bulbs having rotted. Both the Derby collections are grown on beds level with the surrounding surface, whilst the most healthy collections in this neighbourhood, and where destruction of this kind is unknown, are grown on beds raised at least twelve, and in some cases eighteen inches in height, so that if the bulbs are planted four inches deep, they are yet far above the level, and consequently cannot suffer from an abundance of moisture. We think that in the case of Mr. Parkinson's bulbs, there is another cause. Previous to planting, he divests them of the skin or husk. The question arises whether this may not be the cause, for nature does not provide a covering of this kind except for some good purpose, and we find that as the time for planting draws on, the husk which covers the lower part of the bulb is burst by the swelling of that portion from which the root protrudes. Now it appears to us that this covering is a great protection to the bulb, at this season, for it will be apparent that it keeps off the moisture from

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the pores of the bulb till the roots have begun to perform their functions. Suppose the bulb is stripped, and a wet autumn ensues, the pores are filled with moisture before the roots have begun to move, which we most certainly think must have a deleterious effect. Some beds of bulbs, belonging to Mr. Parkinson, which were left with their "jackets" on, are all safe and healthy, with scarcely a miss amongst several thousands. Another instance we may quote. A friend of ours tried stripping, last season, and the consequence was, he had many bulbs rotted, and he attributes his loss solely to this cause. Perhaps some of our tulip-growing friends may have had similar experience. We should be glad to hear their opinion on the subject.

DESTRUCTION AMONGST TULIP BEDS.—I wish to bring before your readers what appears to be a very serious floral matter, and that is the total destruction, or nearly so, of several beds of tulips, in this neighbourhood. The cause of this destruction is worthy of strict investigation, for, like the potato disease, its ravages cannot be stopped when once set in, entailing a serious loss, often sweeping off a collection which has taken a life to accumulate, and a little fortune to pay for. The question that I would put to the floral world is this, "Have the bulbs, by a long course of high cultivation, growing in rich soil, been brought into a state of disease?" I know that scores of collections of auriculas have rotted from this very circumstance; and if this is the case with one florists' flower, why not with another? Is it not possible that the juices of the plant contained in the reservoir (the bulb) may be vitiated, and only required a certain state of the atmosphere, or condition of soil, to cause the fearful appearance of the disease. I am led to think there is some truth in this, from the circumstance of tulips which are planted on poorer land and not cared for so much, usually escaping with impunity. Now at this town there are two

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valuable beds lost, each containing from five to six hundred bulbs, and the greater part have rotted; and what perhaps is somewhat singular, several bulbs that I had of one of the parties, previous to planting time, and which I planted on my best bed, have rotted away, whilst the remaining part of the collection is quite healthy. Were these bulbs diseased, like the stock from whence I had them, is a question worth asking and considering about. Some years ago, an eminent florist, near Cambridge, lost an immense number, and if I recollect aright, it was supposed to be the work of some malicious party. Could any part of the loss be attributed to "overgrowing?" Here the impression is that it arises from ineffective drainage. This possibly may be the case, but I would rather incline to the former supposition. I have thus brought the subject forward, and for the sake of we poor tulip growers, I hope some of your experienced readers will give us their views on the matter.—A DERBYITE.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD SEEDLINGS.

ANOTHER year has revolved since the month of May greeted us with its lively appearance, and with it has again arrived the tulip fancier's floral festival, for such it will ever be found to the enthusiastic admirer. The hopes of months, with established varieties, and probably of years, with seedlings, are at a glance decided by the expansion of this much-prized but short-lived floral beauty.

Different indeed are the requirements, and more stringent the regulations that are now enforced, compared with the ordeal of bygone days. Time, the great destroyer, has been with the tulip also the great renovator; a *pure* edifice has been erected, and the tainted one removed, leaving in its place, an unsullied superstructure. The most exquisite and vivid colours

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are now considered as blanks, when unconnected with the primary acquirements—the most promising bud in the seedling bed, and the most exquisitely-formed petal, are alike discarded as first-class flowers, if but the least vestige of a tinge be perceptible; in fact, the most superlative form is unhesitatingly negatived, unless the concomitant qualities of a pure cup and spotless stamens are united. How excitingly then are the hopes and fears of your modern florist depicted, as the expanding flower opens to his anxious view, and either puts a veto on his anticipated ideal beauties, or pronounces him the imaginative possessor of a floral prize; and to a certain extent it is so, for his anticipations are two-fold, when the first ordeal is past another yet remains; yes, this is the crowning point of his efforts, the final termination of his anxious solicitude, for it is a well known fact that the most splendid flowers in the breeder state will often become, when broken, comparatively worthless, whilst from dull and uninteresting colours the most brilliant markings will emanate, and are generally found to produce the really esteemed flowers. From the foregoing sketch, this forcible truth is elicited, that whilst the superficial thoughtless observer can pass by with indifference these brilliant productions of nature, it remains for the true florist delightedly to express his admiration, and in ecstasy to trace those delicate pencillings and gorgeous tints which the hand of creative wisdom has indisputably bestowed upon them.

R. M.

May 17, 1854.

GOSSIP ABOUT TULIPS.

In a short article on raising tulips from seed, at page 48 of the February number of your last year's volume, I gave a detailed description of the method I had pursued in getting some tulip seed to vegetate

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when three years old, and I promised, after another year's growth, that I would report further upon them. At the time when that article was penned, I was fearful that the age of the seed would have a depreciatory effect, by producing a debilitated constitution, and the result would be a feeble growth. They are now in their third year, and having had them under particular notice for some time, I am able to state, that up to this period their growth has been satisfactory. Their general appearance indicates perfect health. Indeed, there is no perceptible difference between these seedlings and the produce of fresh-gathered seed. I shall yet watch their future progress with much anxiety.

I will now briefly endeavour to answer a question or two, put by one of your correspondents, under the signature of "Inquirer," at page 220 of the same volume. He appears to have observed in some seedling tulips blooming with him for the first time, a distinct stripe of breeder colour, of a lighter shade, down the centre of the petal, and has also noticed in others a darker margin of breeder colour round the edge of the petal, and asks if some raiser of seedling tulips will inform him if these marks are any indication of the style of breaking. As no one has responded to his solicitation, I will venture to hazard an opinion of my own, and earnestly hope, if my explanation is not correct, that some one more fully conversant with the mysteries yet shrouding the cultivation of this flower, will at once unreservedly set me right. These certainly are not the times to harbour any profound secrets in floriculture. We should uniformly consider ourselves all engaged in one common field of enterprize, and cheerfully rejoice at the success of any floral brother engaged in the same delightful occupation. The definition of a flamed tulip, given by the London growers, in the prospectus of the national tulip show, has scattered to the wind the last feeble barrier of diversified opinion, and has in effect proclaimed to the whole

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floral community that *no difference of opinion* exists. But I am outstepping my solution of Inquirer's problem. I apprehend it will be found by careful investigation, that breeders having a lighter shade on the edge of the petal have a tendency to break into flame without feather, whilst the more esteemed varieties, having the dark margin, will produce that great desiderata of the present day, flame and feather also; and as to the stripe down the centre of the petal, I think it probable (this is only supposition) that feathered breaks may result from breeders having these distinctive marks. But after all, it is not clear to me, that in a great measure the density and regularity of the marking of a flower does not depend very much upon a genial and steady growth, with careful protection from excessive frosts, which often occur when the bud first makes its appearance. I also much question whether a successful development of the beauties of this much-prized flower can be effected without carefully guarding it from the evils I have enumerated. The telling effects of frost is clearly evinced by the indenture of the petal, often accompanied by a deformed bud, preventing the free expansion of the flower, thus not the least evil to be considered is that of late planting.

ALPHA.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

PANSIES.—I. H.—*Novelty*, a shaded chocolate crimson self. We have seen several like this lately. As a fancy variety it may do.

JAMES MC. KLAIER.—The yellow self is of good form and substance; the eye is, however, plain. Had it a good bold centre, it would be a decided acquisition.

I. S.—*Red Rover*, good stout flower, bold eye, and a novel colour. An advance in the right way, for a crimson pansy. No. 6 we cannot speak so favourably of, because there are better flowers of the same colour out.

H. SMITH —*Dreadnought*, a stout bold flower, but certainly not so good as Duke of Norfolk, from which it is evidently

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raised. The dark self, *Othello*, has a shade of blue round the eye, shading off. This we do not like, though some of the (so-called) leading selfs have this character.

POLYANTHUSES.—R. D.—You may well say that you admire your seedlings more than the named old varieties which you grow. Of those sent, No. 1 is better than one-half of those honoured with a high-sounding title. It is a full-sized flower, of excellent form, the pips standing well up and forming a good head. The ground colour is like black velvet, eye circular, with a trumpet tube, like old Tantarara, lacing and centre orange. Having noticed all the good points, we must observe, that in several of the pips there is a slight defect in the lacing, otherwise it is a fine flower, and well worth growing. No. 2, starry, and the tube inferior; the centre shaded slightly like a cowslip. No. 3, worse still, not one of the segments of the corolla properly laced, nor ever will. Your flowers stand in quality as numbered. We should discard the two last, and save seed from the first, which is well worth a name and good cultivation.

W. T.—*Duke of Northumberland*, rich in colour, dark, with a correct gold lace, trusses well, and will make a fine show flower. There were some promising pips amongst the other seedlings sent, but as they were not numbered, we can give no description of them.

E. P.—Pips came in a letter completely disfigured. The better way is to send a truss of flowers, we can then arrive at a much better conclusion as to the merit of the specimen.

S. W.—Your's are a long way from the mark. Surely you have not read any work which treats on the properties of flowers, or you would have saved yourself the postage.

AURICULAS.—R. R.—*Lord Palmerston*, a very nice flower, of good form, paste dense, a dark green edge, body colour like black velvet. The edge, ground colour, and paste are well balanced.

J. P.—*Emily*, white edge, a good round flower, the ground colour and margin well balanced. We shall not be surprised if this flower takes a very prominent position in its scarce class. The other white-edge is too rough and not so good by any means as Pillar of Beauty, which is a coarse old variety. If not a beat on existing varieties, it is of no use.

TULIPS.—R. W.—*Duke of Perth.* Your seedling bizarre is of good form and well marked, in the style of a feathered Sir S. Smith or Magnum Bonum, the ground colour being brighter than in that variety; still we are sorry to observe a slight cloudiness about the base, which, if constant, will detract in a great measure from its otherwise good character. *Lord Hardinge*, also a nice bizarre, but in a different

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character, a fine dark flame, on rich yellow. We are glad to find that the beam does not break through at the top of the petal, but is nicely met by the feather; the base also is pure, and the marking well balanced. We like this flower far the best; it will be very likely to take its place in the first rank.

A. P.—The seedling breeders are but of average merit. No. 7, a byblœmen, is the best, being pure and of a good colour, but is rather defective in form. A. P. need not send any more, unless the quality is better than those already sent, which, with the exception of the one alluded to, had either dirty cups or stained stamens.

M. M.—*Jeanette*, seedling feathered rose, very small, but very pretty. You say from a weak bulb; should it attain a good average size, it will be valuable.

Rev. S. Creswell.—The flowers which you have received from Chester as first-rate, and forwarded to us, for our opinion, are, *Soorn's King of the Blacks*, small, long, and very impure. Much like La Belle Narene. Utterly worthless. *Salvator Rosa*, a miserable bizarre. *Soorn's Enchantress*, rosy byblœmen, black stamens, very poor. *Soorn's Lady Grey*, like a bad Lady Middleton.

Cineraria.—Q.—*Juno*, very similar to many others. Dark disk, white ground, with purple edge. Pretty, but not distinct enough to sell out, there being now scores in the same style, and some much better.

J. B.—Your cineraria is the best we have had submitted to us this season, and we have no doubt will become a favourite. It is of fine form and compact habit, rich mazarine blue, dark disk, with a ring of white surrounding it, whilst between the white and blue is a narrow and distinct thread of scarlet. We think as it is so good, you cannot do better than call it after your better half.

Verbenas.—S. H.—Your seedling, *Sir C. Napier*, will do; it makes a nice truss, and is of a rich rosy pink, with distinct yellow eye. As you have sold it out at sixpence a plant, all we can say is, that the purchasers have got a good bargain. There have been scores worse, sold at five shillings each.

W. P.—*Claudius*, a good scarlet, but deficient in form. It has an agreeable perfume, but we fear, though you praise it highly and promise to advertise it with us, that if you quote our opinion of it as being only second-rate, you will not sell many.

W. W.—Your seedling rose, from Geant des Batailles, is full, of fine form, and very sweet-scented. We agree with you that it will make a good forcing rose.

Scarlet Nonpareil Rhubarb.—J. R.—Early, high-coloured, and excellent.

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W. P.—Your seedling rhubarb has nothing particular to recommend it. The stalks are flat and thin, neither is it anything like so scarlet as the preceding.

COMMENTARY ON OUR COTEMPORARIES.

THE GARDENER'S RECORD. Edited by J. T. Neville.

WE have received the numbers for April and May together. The former commences with an article on the hollyhock, with a good descriptive list, followed by a paper on floral societies, in which the writer deplores the mercenary spirit evinced by growers in very many instances. We fear this is too true, for we can revert to some score of cases, not only with flowers, but also with vegetables, &c. where this spirit has so far got the master of the competing parties, that positively they were not content with exhibiting their own, but must needs show the property of other people. Still we think this practice is on the wane, but whether the spirit is extinct or not, the salutary dread of exposure must and will act as a check on parties so disposed. We have often thought that in all societies there should be a sort of document drawn up on parchment, containing the rules, &c., to which should be attached a declaration of submission to these enactments; and on the admission of each fresh member, they should be read over to him, and he should be required to sign the declaration, holding himself legally responsible for any fine which an infraction of the rules would bring upon him; but at the same time giving the accused party the opportunity of refuting the charge before a jury, composed of members of the society. We think that this would certainly have a beneficial effect, for while society is constituted as it is, such things, however much to be deplored, will happen, and we do not see why we ought not in this, as in other cases of delinquency, to adopt the Englishman's

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boast, trial by jury. It should also be imperative that the members of the press be admitted; in fact it should be an open court. Now what do our brother florists think of this idea? It is acknowledged on all hands that unfair showing is a crying evil—that the man who robs his brother florist, *his friend*, is infinitely worse than the burglar or pickpocket, who fleeces a stranger; and it requires a determination on the part of all honest florists to put it down by the strong hand. We think that in every future case, a plan of this kind should be adopted, and if, on becoming a member of a society, each one avows by his signature his willingness to abide by this ordeal, in case of alleged delinquency, that then the sad blot of unfair showing by the mercenary florist would soon be expunged. But we would not have a man branded as a thief until he was proved by his peers to be guilty. We know of parties who have laboured for years under a stigma of this kind, who from our heart we have believed to be innocent, and who, in more than one case, after a lapse of years, have been acknowledged to be so. This could hardly have been the case, had they been tried at the time. We have said our say on the subject, and if any one can offer a more likely or a fairer plan to check the mischief, we will give it all the aid in our power. But to proceed with our review of the *Record*. The Physiology of the Tulip is seasonable; the Description of Summer Climbers very interesting, and to its correctness, and the pleasing style in which it is written, we give our willing testimony.

No. 5 commences with an article by our old friend, Mr. John Slater, who, of course, looks very sharply after the writers in the *Midland Florist*. The query is *whether a flake petal ought to disqualify a bizarre carnation*. If we were judging, we should disqualify it, just as we should if there were a self petal in it. No one is more earnest and zealous in the cause of floriculture than Mr. Dodwell; no one has done so much for it in the midland counties; but while the

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world stands, opinions will vary, and Mr. Dodwell has a right to hold his opinion, and support it with fair argument, the same as any other person. Mr. Sievewright's fine stand of flowers was disqualified at the great exhibition at Derby, for having an improper petal in one of the bizarres, and we believe the objection to its winning was acknowledged to be valid. We expect WE shall shortly be took to book, and certainly we have not the slightest objection when we deserve it. All we trust and hope is that our critics will write in a decent and kindly spirit. Though we profess to afford information, we are always glad to be taught; in fact, we have not yet found ourselves too old to learn. To proceed. The Culture of Herbaceous Calceolarias, and a Select List of Climbing Roses, will be found useful to lovers of these plants. After an article on the Uses of Charcoal, we have a Descriptive List of Tulips, by Mr. John Slater. We shall not allude to the introductory remarks, because of them we cannot speak favourably, and will confine ourselves to that part of which we approve. Mr. Slater's list of twenty-one tulips contains but few which we imagine he would buy, most of them being impure, or with bad formed cups and narrow petals. Here we have Groom's Pucella, Lord John Russell, Achilles, Lady Herold, Diogenes, Habit Nuptial, Princess Charlotte, Euphrates, Emperor Nicholas, Lord Brougham, and Lady Grey (Haigh's), pointed out to the amateur as comparatively worthless. Bijou and Lady Douro are but little better; whilst Glory of Abingdon, though pure and a good marker, is long in the cup. Rose Brathel is too much like Triomphe Royale, Neptune falls flat very speedily, Ivanhoe is triangular, and Abbott's Lord Denman is tight at the base, though otherwise a beautiful flower. Milton is the same as the Duke of Devonshire, and Marshal Soult (Groom) is the best, being feathered and pure. (We grow it flamed, and in that state it is impure.) What we like the list for is that it thus points out to the

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amateur what to avoid, which, now a days, is of as much importance as what to procure.

THE FLORIST, FRUITIST, AND GARDEN MISCELLANY. By Charles Turner and John Spencer. *Chapman and Hall, London.*

THE embellishment is a group of cinerarias. *Lady Mary Labouchere* is a clear white ground, with narrow margin of bright lavender blue; *Optima*, white ground, with a broader margin of blue than the preceding; *Mrs. Trulove*, a fine and novel variety, having a white ground, with crimson purple margin, and dark purple disk; and *Sir Charles Napier*, a finely-formed close-habited dark blue self. There is a good paper on the cultivation of these beautiful flowers, with a select list of the best sorts now grown. This is followed by Notes on the Winter of 1853-4, a season which we have serious cause to recollect. Elvaston Castle, Derbyshire. The grounds and plants of this beautiful place are briefly described, and notice is made of the splendid weeping ash, certainly a noble tree, and unique in this country. It is stated to be forty or fifty feet high. We thought it had been higher. We may add, that in clearing away some large trees, at the commencement of the formation of the grounds, an ash which had been crowded and drawn up by the other trees, was allowed to remain; a pulley was attached to the top, and a man, drawn up in a large basket, grafted it with the weeping variety. The clay was covered with moss, and in dry weather, the man, with his watering can, was hoisted up to moisten it. The Descriptive List of Hardy Conifers will interest all who desire to see our hillsides clothed with such trees as the Deodar, araucaria, and pinus; in fact, these fine trees should now be put in at the margins of existing plantations, to break the monotony of the outline, and give a novel feature to the woods which are composed

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of the common kinds of trees. This is followed by notes on the London nurseries, with the new plants they contain. Those most likely to interest our readers are, at Messrs. Henderson's, an Erica Victoria, said to be a splendid thing, with rich glossy deep scarlet flowers. It is of the Aristata section. The Double White Chinese Peach was very showy as a forced plant. Mr. Glendinning's nursery, Chiswick, is noted for its large quantity of fine conifers. Cupressus Lambertiana and C. torulosa have suffered much from frost. With us, plants from six to eight feet are killed outright. A new variegated passion flower, which has not yet bloomed, from Mexico, and a red one, from Australia, is also noticed. At Mr. Lee's, the new clemati, Sophia and Ann, alluded to in our last, are cultivated. At Mr. Veitch's, Rhododendron jasminiflorum was found, with pure white fragrant flowers; Myrtus ugni, a new hardy evergreen, likely to prove valuable from its neat habit and powerful fragrance; and young plants of the Wellingtonea gigantea, the monstrous Californian tree, which we have before talked about. At Messrs. Whitley and Osborn's was a new herbaceous plant, supposed to be hardy, called Lysimachia leschenaultia, which has heads of lively pink flowers, produced in great profusion. At Messrs. Henderson's, Wellington-road, the Indian azaleas are described as very fine, and the new rhododendron, Bianca, is alluded to as one of the best whites in cultivation. There was also an improved variety of R. Gibsonii, with waxy white flowers, three to four inches across. Jenny Lind camellia, from America, white, with carmine blotch on the petals. Skimmia japonica, and Berberis Beali, beautiful new evergreen, were also there. A new Bourbon rose, Gloire de Dijon, described in our last. The plant we received from the Continent, we regret to say, was so small and tender, apparently out of high temperature, that when the packet was opened, it was found to be quite black and dead. At Messrs. Low's, Clapton, an immense quantity of

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Araucaria imbricata are grown, and here again the Eugenia, or Myrtus ugni, was in bloom. Amongst the azaleas, at Messrs. Frazer's, Lea Bridge, were A. Frosti, of good form, and beautiful pale pink; Aurora, salmon red, upper petals much spotted. At Mr. Turner's, at Slough, amongst other fine things, pansies are extensively cultivated. Among new ones Duchess of Sutherland is spoken highly of. It is a white ground flower, with margin and top petals very bright purple, the colours being decided and bright. A Descriptive List of Fruits follows; and a passing notice of the Sydenham Crystal Palace. Then we have a Plan of the Parterre at Bowood, with a list of plants for the various beds, finishing with "Gossip," in which allusion is made to the national show at Nottingham, last year, where it appears the judges, passed some very questionable flowers.

THE HORTICULTURAL JOURNAL, AND FARM AND GARDEN ADVERTISER. By Mr. Glenny.

WE have received the numbers of this weekly garden paper regularly. In looking through it we find that the editor writes in the style for which he is so noted. We presume the *Journal* will be the vehicle to enforce Mr. Glenny's opinions, which are generally pretty strongly done. We are glad to find him state that he never assails anything or any body, without just grounds, in which case he cannot well err. Mr. Glenny has for years been a writer on floral and horticultural matters, and the rules for judging flowers as laid down by him are now generally adopted throughout the kingdom. There is only one writer who attempts to copy Mr. Glenny, but he fails to accomplish it, and Mr. G. must be considered the head of the department he has made peculiarly his own. The principal articles contain sharp attacks on the National Floricultural Society, and all and sundry who are supposed not to behave themselves. We

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shall be glad to see in its pages, some of the same kind of information contained in the pages of the old *Gardener's Gazette*, which, to our mind, has never been excelled as a garden newspaper.

We have not received the *Cabinet*, or the *Southern Florist* this month, therefore cannot have the pleasure of noticing them.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

EFFECTS OF THE FROST IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF BEESTON, NOTTS.—A more sweeping devastation among trees and shrubs it has never been my lot to witness. Amongst other trees killed, or nearly so, are large bushes of sweetbay *(Laurus nobelis)*, and the arbutus *(Arbutus unedo)*. The aucuba, hardy as it usually is considered to be, is most seriously damaged. Then there is the silver-striped alaternus, the Ceanothus thyrsiflorus, and Cratægus crenulata, also destroyed. Even evergreen oaks are seriously damaged; and as for common and Portugal laurels, scores are killed to the ground. Pontic rhododendrons are in many cases killed, whilst the North American rhododendron, catawbiense, has stood with perfect impunity. I see some new rhododendrons that I have now grown for six or seven years, and which are grafted on the former sort, are ruined, for though the tops are green and uninjured, the stock is dead, utterly killed by the frost; therefore I think that all valuable sorts should be grafted on the catawbiense, a hint which I trust nurserymen will take.

EFFECTS OF HOUSE SEWAGE ON GROWING CROPS.—Some two or three years ago, you advised the taking care of all refuse from the house, to be applied to growing crops. I have to a certain degree acted upon your recommendation, having a large butt sunk in

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the ground, with a lid to it. Into this is emptied all the soapsuds, urine, &c., with the greasy water from dishwashing, as I have not the good fortune to keep a pig. In my garden, I have eight roots of Victoria rhubarb, four in each row, at some distance from each other, and this spring I was determined to give the plan a fair trial, therefore I did not cover the roots with rotten dung, as I had previously done, in the autumn. As soon as the severe frost was over, I forked the soil round the roots of all the plants, and to one row I gave a dose of two bucketsful from my reservoir, whilst I gave the others the same quantity of pure water. As the foliage made its appearance, there was from the first an evident superiority in that which had the liquid manure, and now (April 25) I will engage to say there is fully half as much again in the produce of the roots thus treated as in the others. I shall continue the experiment on all my growing crops, and feel certain that this simple mode will save me at least twenty shillings a year in manure, a point of considerable importance to your obedient servant, A COTTAGER.

HOW TO OBTAIN POTATOES FREE FROM DISEASE.—I have been successful in producing sound crops by the following course of culture:—I procure as early and good kinds of potatoes for sets as I can get, omitting all the very latest varieties. My next object is to plant so that the crop can be properly protected and saved from blight when the tubers are grown; I therefore grow my potatoes in beds, which I find to yield the heaviest and finest crop. The sets, which are cut, are sprouted on the hard floor of some sheltered shed, where they can have plenty of air and light. Here I cover them over with some dry mould or coal ashes, in order that they may grow and root, and they remain in this condition until the second or third week in May, when they are planted. After preparing the ground for them, mark out the beds six feet in width, and any length the land will afford,

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leaving the alleys between the beds three or four feet wide. The potatoes are put in at one foot square, keeping the rows straight. The land being planted, growth will soon become strong, and a little earth will be required, which must be supplied from the alleys. When properly earthed, which should be done at twice, the plants may be left to grow undisturbed. Watch carefully for disease, and the moment it is perceived, lose no time in cutting off the haulm and clearing it away. Then sprinkle lime, sulphur, soot, or salt over the beds, and cover them over with earth from the alleys, five inches deep, allowing the middle of the bed to be highest, in order to throw off rain, and keep the potatoes as dry as possible. The whole may now be left with safety. In this way the tubers are kept as sound as possible, and a bad one will scarcely be found.—J. G. KNELL.

At the first Chiswick show for 1854, roses in pots were abundant. Mr. Busby, gardener to J. Crawley, Esq., showed well—Paul Ricaut, a pretty full rose; Géante des Batailles, well grown, but out of colour; Solfatare, Amosa, and Paul Peras, good. Mr. Rowland's best were Géante des Batailles, scantily flowered, but in splendid colour; Paul Peras, Madame Lamoricière, General Jaqueminot, and Baron Prevost, all exellent. Mr. Sage, gardener to W. R. Robinson, Esq., showed the Géante des Batailles short, bushy, full-bloomed, and of the richest colour; and a Duchess of Sutherland, half standard, with the long branches twisted and tortured in all directions to form a bush; if cruelty to plants were a crime, Mr. Sage would be an awful sinner. Mr. Busby took the first gold medal, Mr. Rowland, second, and Mr. Sage third. Lane, of Berkhampstead, exhibited a noble dozen, of which the best were Madame St. Joseph, Aubernon, Chenedole, Viscomtesse de Cazes, a pretty yellow; Lemarque, Paul Peras, Paul Ricaut, Duchess of Sutherland, Souvenir d'une Ame, Queen, and Coupe d'Hebe. Mr. Francis, of Hertford, exhibited Coupe d'Hebe,

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grand; Baron Prevost and Paul Peras fine; the others average. Paul's best were Géante des Batailles, the best in the exhibition, Coupe d'Hebe, Lemarque, Aubernon, and Paul Peras. Mr. Lane took the first gold medal, Mr. Francis the second, Mr. Paul the silver gilt. Messrs. Standish and Noble showed single specimens of roses—Jules Margettin, fine deep colour, well formed; and Gloire de France, deep crimson, not fully bloomed, but promising; they also exhibited in the same tent Azalea narcissiflora, a double white variety, but, like other doubles, confused in the flower, and inclined to be flimsy, but a novelty. Of the numerous specimens and a fair sprinkle of novelties, we observed two clematis in the style of Azurea grandiflora, one called Sophia, paler than the original, the other called Monstrosa, nearly white; for the latter Mr. Jackson had a second certificate of merit. Clerodendron Bungei, with a head of close purple flowers, was exhibited by Mr. Henderson, of the Wellington Nursery, who also exhibited a bulb named Eucharis candida, with flower a good deal like an improved white narcissus of only one bloom; for this he had a first certificate of merit. Rhododendron Javanecum was shown with a noble truss of its brilliant orange flowers, by Lane, of Berkhampstead, who also showed two plants of Cantua dependens, a red trumpet flower hanging in a bunch. Messrs. Veitch showed Cyprepedium villosum, a striking novelty, for which the large silver medal was awarded; a new species of rhododendron, of the richest dead gold colour, without a speck to interrupt the rich colour—for this they had the silver gilt medal, and a silver Banksian for a plant of Hexacentrus lutea, with long racimes of dull yellow flowers; they also showed a monster specimen of Adenandra fragrans, four feet high and five feet through, beautifully flowered; and Erica depressa, a splendid plant, profusely bloomed. A plant of Medinilla magnifica, which, as there was no name attached, we presume was from the garden, was the finest specimen that has yet been exhibited. Rhodo-

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dendron Edgewortheii, from Standish and Noble, excited some attention; it was past its bloom, but enough remained to show the nature of the species; the leaves are covered with a brown fur, and the white flowers are individually four inches across; the truss had gone by, but if in proportion to the single flower, it must be immense. A fine plant of Ixora coccinea, from Mr. Clark, gardener to Mrs. Webb, obtained for him a certificate of merit. J. Anderson, Esq., of Edinburgh, had a first certificate of merit for a hybrid rhododendron, between Hirsutum and Gibsoni; it blooms about the size of the former, and has white flowers; we think nothing of any of the breed. Mr. Dodd showed a single plant of Gomphilobium polymorphum, for which he had the silver Banksian medal. Garroway and Co. obtained the silver Knightian for a plant of Genethylis tulipfera, with boxlike leaves and dirty white flowers, the size and shape of a thimble. Mr. Busby, gardener to J. Crawley, Esq., exhibited a fine plant of Erica depressa; and Mr. Taylor showed a new Gomphilobium, with larger flowers than usual in that tribe, Messrs. Veitch had a silver Knightian medal for a Vanda suaveolans. Mr. Smith showed a new strawberry, Sir C. Napier, a brilliant colour, very handsome berry, and good large size, but as visiters do not taste, we can say nothing about the flavour. Cucumbers were exhibited; one called With's Champion, very middling shape and colour, and white spine. There were some very tidy figs, and a good many dishes of fruit which were very little, if any, inferior to the samples which obtained prizes. Mr. Judd's figs were fine, but not sufficiently ripe.—*Horticultural Journal.*

Early Tulips.—For the amateur of limited means these are a valuable tribe of spring-flowering plants. They are cheap, and easy to cultivate, requiring but little attention, and while they annually adorn the flower-clump, or sitting room window, their numbers will increase, until the only difficulty will be to find

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room for them. During April and May, they add an inexpressible charm to the flower-border, and do not withdraw their unequalled colours and sweet perfume until their place can be supplied with the usual bedding-out plants. What, for instance, can be compared with a bed of the Tournesol, for the regularity of surface, and the splendour of its two distinct colours? Next in size and beauty, is a single variety called Keizar Kroon, which is indeed a noble flower. It has a very bright yellow ground, flaked with a vivid scarlet, and is in every respect "queen" of the single early tulips. Rex rubrorum is a double variety, of a brilliant crimson, also very large; a bed of it presents a very regular surface, and long continuance of bloom. Royal Standard is a pleasing flower, with a pure white ground, beautifully flaked with carmine, making a striking contrast. Belle Alliance is another single flower, very attractive, of a vivid red colour, a self. The new scarlet Van Thol is very similar to it, but it has this difference, that it very often breaks into a flaked flower, orange and red. Grand Master of Malta and Bride of Haarlem are very similar in colour, both having pure white grounds, distinctly striped, and flaked with bright crimson. Alida Maria is a flower in the same style, but very dwarf in habit. Superintendent is a fine kind, white, with a violet flake. Conqueror is double and has the same colours. The best double pure white is La Candeur; as single whites, White Swan and Pottebakker are the best. Amongst yellows we have the yellow Van Thol, dwarf and showy; the yellow Pottebakker, and the old Double Yellow, which is rather later in flowering. From February till May, they may be also easily had in flower for the window. In forming a small collection, the following varieties are suitable to begin with:—Van Thol, single and double; Rex rubrorum, Tournesol, Florentine, and Mariage de ma Fille. The outlay for a dozen of each of these varieties will not exceed the cost of one dozen first-class hyacinths, and while the later have to be bought annually, these will last for years.—*Gardeners' Chron.*

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

SOUTH LONDON AMATEUR FLORISTS' SOCIETY.

Thursday, April 20.

AURICULAS.

Pairs.—1. Page's Champion and Oliver's Lovely Ann, Mr. Ginger. 2. Sykes's Complete and Hedge's Britannia, Mr. Murdock.

Four Blooms.—1. Page's Champion, Hedge's Britannia, Grime's Privateer, and Oliver's Lovely Ann, Mr. Ginger. 2. Page's Champion, Kenyon's Ringleader, Lee's Bright Venus, and Dickson's Duke of Wellington, Mr. Murdock.

Green-edged.

1 Page's Champion, Mr. Ginger

Grey-edged.

1 Oliver's Lovely Ann, Mr. Ginger
2 Waterer's Conq. of Europe, Mr. Reeves

White-edged.

1 Clegg's Crucifix, Mr. Ginger

Selfs.

1 Parker's Metropolitan, Mr. Ginger

PANSIES.

Best Twelve.—Duke of Norfolk, Miss Talbot, Pandora, Thisbe, British Queen, Duke of Perth, Lady Carrindon, St. Andrews, Maria, Sir J. Cathcart, Royal Visit, and Robert Burns, Mr. August, jun.

Best in Pots.—Remarkably well-grown specimens of Alfred the Great, British Queen, Mr. Beck, Aurora, Lady Carrindon, &c. Mr. August, jun.

AURICULA SHOW.

The annual auricula and polyanthus show was held at the house of Mr. John Harrison, Masons' Arms Inn, Middleton, April 24. The season being rather earlier, the flowers were not so good as we have seen them on former occasions. Had the show been a week sooner, there would have been some first-rate blooms.

A premier prize (£1) for the best pan of four auriculas, was awarded to R. Lancashire, for Imperator (green-edged), Smiling Beauty (white-edged), Complete (grey-edged), Ned Lud (self).

A copper kettle, for the best flower in each class, and other prizes in proportion, were awarded to the following persons:—

Green-edged.

1 Freedom, C. Stott
2 Imperator, J. Ashworth
3 Wilbraham, R. Lancashire
4 Prince of Wales, J. Buckley
5 Colonel Taylor, C. Stott
6 Green Hero, R. Lancashire
7 King, J. Buckley

Grey-edged.

1 Lancashire Hero, D. Jackson
2 Sykes's Complete, J. Buckley
3 Ringleader, C. Stott
4 Lovely Ann, C. Ball, Esq.
5 Mary Ann, R. Lancashire
6 Ne plus ultra, J. Ashworth
7 Privateer, Elliott
8 Victoria, J. Buckley

White-edged.

1 Smiling Beauty, R. Lancashire
2 Venus, Elliott
3 Catherina, W. Kent
4 Favourite, C. Ball, Esq.
5 Incomparable, D. Jackson
6 True Briton, R. Lancashire
7 Countess of Wilton, Elliott
8 Regular, J. Ashworth

Selfs.

1 Blue Bonnet, J. Buckley
2 Othello, C. Ball, Esq.
3 Flag, W. Kent
4 Primate, ditto
5 Ned Lud, C. Ball, Esq.
6 Apollo, J. Ashworth
7 Oddy's Rest, C. Ball, Esq.
8 Squire Mundy, W. Kent

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Beauty of England, R. Lancashire
2 Alexander, C. Ball, Esq.
3 Seedling, J. Buckley
4 Russell, W. Kent
5 Prince Regent, ditto
6 Lord Lincoln, D. Jackson
7 George IV., J. Buckley
8 Exile, W. Kent
9 Sovereign, J. Heap
10 King, ditto
11 Seedling, W. Kent
12 Princess Royal, ditto

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HALIFAX AURICULA SHOW.

Odd Fellows' Hall, May 6.

Premium Prize.—Cheetham's Lancashire Hero, J. Chapman.
Self Premium.—Bradshaw's Tidy, J. Chapman.

Green-edged.

1 Lee's Colonel Taylor, W. Baildon
2 Ashton's Prince of Wales, Womersley
3 Booth's Freedom, W. Baildon
4 Pollitt's Standard of England, J. Womersley
5 Yates's Morris Green Hero, Chapman
6 Waterhouse's Shakspere, Womersley
7 Field Marshal, W. Baildon
8 Liston's Imperator, ditto

Grey-edged.

1 Kenyon's Ringleader, W. Baildon
2 Sykes's Complete, ditto
3 Fletcher's Mary Ann, J. Womersley
4 Cheetham's Lancashire Hero, James Womersley
5 Fletcher's Ne plus ultra, ditto
6 Ashton's Prince of Wales, ditto
7 Oliver's Lovely Ann, J. Chapman
8 Waterhouse's Conqueror of Europe, James Womersley

White-edged.

1 Hepton's True Briton, James Womersley
2 Lee's Bright Venus, J. Womersley
3 Summerscale's Catherina, ditto
4 Cheetham's Countess of Wilton, James Womersley
5 Ashworth's Regular, T. Brooke
6 Pott's Regulator, R. Summerscales
7 Campbell's Robert Burns, W. Baildon
8 Taylor's Favourite, J. Womersley

Selfs.

1 Whittaker's True Blue, Js. Womersley
2 Smith's Mrs. Smith, R. Summerscales
3 Bradshaw's Tidy, J. Womersley
4 Clegg's Blue Bonnet, ditto
5 Berry's Lord Lee, James Womersley
7 Netherwood's Othello, W. Baildon
8 Oddy's Rest, J. Womersley
9 Brake's Queen Ann, ditto.

Alpines.

1 Fieldhouse's Fair Rosamond, James Womersley
2 Conspicua, R. Summerscales
3 Fair Ellen, James Womersley
4 Seedling, R. Summerscales

POLYANTHUSES.

1 Chadwick's Elegant, R. Summerscales
2 Craiggy's Highland Mary, ditto
3 Summerscales' Warrior, ditto
4 Maude's Beauty of England, ditto
5 Crownshaw's Invincible, ditto
6 William the Conqueror, W. Baildon
7 Gibbons's Royal Sovereign, R. Summerscales
8 Brown's Freebloomer, ditto

TULIP SHOW.

The florists of Northampton and Northamptonshire Floral and Horticultural Society held their tulip show at the George Hotel, on the 18th of May. The awards of the judges were as follows:—

Twelve Blooms.—1. Royal Sovereign, Duke of Devonshire, Magnum Bonum, Polyphemus, Aglaia, Triomphe Royale, Bion (Dixon), Guerrier, La Joie, Queen Charlotte, and Lawrence's Friend, T. Watts. 2. Dutch Catafalque, Duke of Devonshire, Nero, Charbonnier Noir, Lady Middleton, Triomphe Royale, Admiral, Lady Crewe, Violet Alexander, Baguet, Diana, and Violet Grand Turk, Rev W. Taylor.

Six Blooms.—1. Platoff, Charbonnier Noir, Baguet, Chellaston Seedling, Aglaia, and Triomphe Royale, H. Archer. 2. Polyphemus, Optimus, Lawrence's Friend, Princess Royal, Duke of Rutland, and Rose Camuse, J. Holliday.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Duke of Devonshire, T. Watts
2 George Canning, J. Holliday
3 Magnum Bonum, H. Archer

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Duke of Devonshire, H. Archer
2 Polyphemus, J. Holliday
3 Midas, T. Watts

Feathered Bybloemens.

1 Maid of Orleans, T. Watts
2 Friend (Lawrence), J. Holliday
3 Chellaston Seedling, H. Archer

Flamed Bybloemens.

1 Lord Denman, T. Watts
2 Friend (Lawrence), J. Holliday

Feathered Roses.

1 Comte de Vergennes, H. Archer
2 Lady Crewe, T. Watts
3 Lady Middleton, J. Holliday

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, T. Watts
2 Rose Camuse, J. Holliday

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE NATIONAL TULIP SHOW.

Our visit to this exhibition, which was held this season in the Regent's Park, London, on the 24th of May, in connection with that of the Royal Botanic Society, was one of unalloyed pleasure and gratification, as far as the flowers, plants, grounds, &c. went, and as perhaps our readers would like to hear a little about these matters, we will try our hand at a descriptive gossiping article.

Our party from Nottingham was seven in number, and after very carefully stowing away our boxes, filled with flowers, on which our hopes and anxieties were centered, we were whisked away, on the Great Northern line, to London. It was fortunate that we had a carriage to ourselves all the way to the metropolis, for had the eighth place been occupied by a plain-going man and no florist, he really would have been glad to make his escape at the first station where a stoppage was effected, from the incessant din about perfect forms, pure bases, stained stamens, quartered flowers, tight cups, heavy flames, imperfect feathers, good comers, Polyphemuses, Captain Whites, Salvator Rosas, Princess Royals, Hebe's Cups, Mrs. Lymberrys, Mary Lambs, Miss Creswells, Sir Joseph Paxtons, with a host of other equally pertinent observations, perfectly unintelligible to the uninitiated. We say, poor man, he would have been glad to escape from the company of those who, in the simplicity of his heart, he must have believed to be stark mad—thoroughly and hopelessly demented. However, we got safely to head quarters, the Salutation, Newgate-street, a quietly-conducted, good house, where there were every attention and reasonable charges, and

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where we would advise our florist friends, visiting the metropolis, to make their abiding place. The first thing, of course, before either eating or drinking, was to get our flowers upstairs, to see that the bandages round them were all right, and that no harm had occurred to them, and though perhaps one hundred and fifty blooms were taken by our party, we found them all safe and ready for exhibition at a moment's notice. In fact, for carrying flowers, no better plan can be adopted than boxes, fitted with stages, on which they are to be exhibited. We moved early on the morning of the 24th, and arrived at the park about halfpast seven, and though thus early, we found the museum already crowded with amateurs and their flowers. There was a scarcity of bottles for the single specimens, owing to many more flowers being brought than were expected, for though the southern collections were certainly past their best, still they mustered in great force. For most of the northern and midland growers, the time was right to a day, though on the Monday night previous to starting, we were obliged to place our flowers before the kitchen fire, to bring them to that state of expansion which we know is a most proper point insisted on in the south. Previous to comparing the stands, the censors look over them all, in order to discover disqualifications, in the shape of impure bases or stamens, similar varieties under dissimilar names, &c., and unfortunately four midland stands were put *hors de combat*, to the great chagrin of their owners. There was Mr. Godfrey's, of Chellaston, with five splendid flowers, which his success in premiers will attest, but unfortunately his Captain White was not only very full of breeder colour, but stained at the base, thus giving his stand its *quietus*. T. Adams, Esq., of Derby, in his stand of twelve, had two flamed bizarres, Pilot and Caliph, thought to be alike, and therefore set aside; but here we think the judges were in error, for the flowers are different in form, and certainly from dissimilar breeders, though

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in some cases very much alike in character. Mr. Houghton, of Nuttall, near Nottingham, who has been a regular winner at our nationals, had a Queen Charlotte with a stained stamen, but otherwise a pure flower, and by this oversight he lost his chance. Mr. Lymberry, also from the neighbourhood of Nottingham, had a very fine stand of eighteen, in which he had concentrated all his strength, and it certainly was the best in class C, but it was set aside, in consequence of containing Royal Sovereign and Platoff, which were pronounced by the judges to be similar. Mr. Willison, too, had a nice stand of six, in which were fine blooms of his seedling bizarre, King, both feathered and flamed, disqualified for containing a feathered byblœmen instead of a rose. It was, we believe, from a rose breeder, but having been previously exhibited at York, had got dark with age, and though a splendid flower, was to all intents and purposes a byblœmen. It will thus be seen how important it is for exhibiters to make as much contrast as possible in selecting blooms, and especially when the number exceeds six.

We now come to the awards. The first stand of six was gained by Mr. Parkyn, of Derby, which excited the utmost astonishment amongst the growers from that part of the country; and so little did Mr. P. expect such a result, that on meeting him in the park, and in answer to his query as to who had won, replying himself, he positively thought we were joking. The Pilot in this stand was certainly a splendid flower, but the Maid of Orleans was a wretched thing, the colour in several of the petals being run. Allen's Salvator Rosa was good, the others nothing particular to talk about. Mr. Lawrence, of Hampton, came second. The worst flower in his stand was Arlette, feathered rose. It was clean and lightly feathered, but owing, we presume, to age, it was all of a heap; in fact, it looked more like a cocked hat than the cup of a tulip. Brown's Ulysses was good; so was Glory of Abingdon,

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as feather and flamed bizarre,—the former in the style of Polyphemus; and Maid of Orleans was nicely feathered. In this stand, all the flowers were perfectly pure and good. J. Thornilly, Esq., of Heaton Norris, stood third, with six nice flowers; amongst which was Lachesis, very much in the way of a flamed Triomphe Royale; and here again was Maid of Orleans in good style, with Queen Charlotte and Heroine. Our stand run a good fourth, and we certainly believe it was our own fault we did not stand higher. Five of our six flowers were very good. Heroine was splendid,—faultless for the variety; Queen Charlotte very good, but probably rather too heavy for the southern taste; both Platoff and Aglaia were fine, but the gem of the stand was a novelty, called Willison's Sir J. Paxton, a flamed bizarre, bright, pure, and attractive. Our losing flower was a large, heavily-feathered Norwich Baguet. It was perfect, as Baguets go, but was half as large again as any of the other flowers. It stood well till the judges commenced, but being old, the petals began to reflex, and then it certainly looked as coarse and ugly as possible. The result was, we were beaten, and it served us right, for putting it in. We had a much better Lady Denman, which was shown in our stand of eighteen, but two or three of the stamens being slightly tinged with farina, in our anxiety for perfect purity, we dare not place it in our best stand, yet the defect was so trifling that the judges passed it in class C. We mention our fault that others may profit by it; for a tulip may be pure, well marked, and finely grown, and yet not harmonize with the other flowers, and be considered coarse and far from handsome. Our old friend, Mr. Spencer, of Thulston, near Derby, brought up the rear. We thought, and Mr. S. expected to have stood higher, but unfortunately all florists are apt to look with partial eyes at their own flowers. He had a beautiful Groom's Victoria, clean and nicely feathered; with capital flamed byblœmen, Lord Denman, and Royal

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Sovereign. We suspect his Captain White told against his stand.

In class B, of twelve flowers, for amateurs, the Rev. S. Creswell, of Radford vicarage, near Nottingham, stood deservedly first, though his Vicar of Radford, a flower broke and named by Mr. Mart, of Nottingham, is, as it ages, too much like a byblœmen to be agreeable to judges who required four distinct flowers of each class. It is a rose, and a fine one too, but we should be careful how we put it in a stand, at these important meetings, unless more decided in colour. Mary Lamb, feathered rose, we think was the pride of the dozen. She looked more *embonpoint* than usual—more rotund and of better form than we have previously seen her, perfectly pure and lively in colour; certainly very attractive in that character. When flamed, it is slightly blue at the base of the beam. Here too was Lady Denman in her very best dress, perfectly pure, and feathered most beautifully; equally good about the top with Groom's Queen Victoria, but rather tight at the base, as it ages. Sphinx, in the style of Duke of Devonshire, very regular in its black feather, on a bright golden yellow ground. This is more regular than the Duke, does not feather so heavily, and is lower on the stem. By some it is said to be the Duke, and nothing else. We fancy not; therefore we must agree to differ, till Mr. Lawrence throws some light on the subject. Prince of Wales, a heavy feathered byblœmen, was also very nice, good in form, and pure. Another fine flower in this stand was Strong's King, really very pure and very beautiful,—a first-rate sort, making a brilliant contrast with the darker varieties, in a stand of twelve. Our bloom is always stained, so that it is evident there are two breaks, one much inferior to the other. We should like a couple of bulbs of the best strain, for an equivalent. H. Betteridge, Esq., of Abingdon, Bucks, was placed second. In this stand was Thalia, flamed byblœmen, in fine style; and Everard, a red flamed bizarre, both

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great favourites of ours. Glory of Abingdon was also in good trim. — Sandars, Esq., of Staines, was third, and here again were some very nice flowers. General Barneveldt, an intense dark feather, was good, evidently a fine strain. Acapulco was scarcely pure, having a saffron-looking tint about the base. We were glad to see two midland flowers of good character here, Maid of Orleans and Duchess of Sutherland. J. Thornilly, Esq., of Heaton Norris, near Stockport, took the next place. His most noticeable flowers were Antagonist, a beautiful red flamed bizarre, hardly so fine, however, as when exhibited at Nottingham, last year, but evidently a safe flower. We consider it the best of its class. Gibbons's Salvator Rosa, a noble flamed byblœmen, which should be grown by every one, and undoubtedly is a worthy competitor of the south country crack of the same name.

The first stand of eighteen was taken by Mr. Lawrence, of Hampton Court. The flowers which more particularly attracted our notice were Nora Creina, a very fine flamed byblœmen, which will suit any taste; Lady Wildair, flamed rose, an interesting variety; Mountain Sylph, flamed rose, pure, for a wonder,—its age brought it in; and Queen of the North. This was a singularly pretty flower, a feathered byblœmen, with the edge laid on like a heavy purple picotee. It might be too delicate for some, but for contrast, in a stand of eighteen, it was very effective. We ran, as is said, "a good second." Our flowers, especially the bizarres, were fine, but scarcely expanded enough, though they had undergone the roasting process. Vicar of Radford was here in its proper character, a flamed rose, being a young flower; Kate Connor, though small, was a very pretty feathered rose; Lady Denman also very neat and pretty; Aglaia, feathered, was in good character; and as to other good byblœmens, we must name Brown's Salvator Rosa, and Rembrandt. Vivid, feathered bizarre, was extra fine. In fact, we have

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been highly pleased with this flower during the present season; whilst Everard and Sir Joseph Paxton were not a whit behind it, the latter, from its purity and novelty, being very attractive. Mr. Turner, of Slough, was third, and here again were some beautiful flowers, but age was telling fast against them. Varieties particularly to be recommended to amateurs, and which pleased us much, were Alexander Magnus, a flamed byblœmen, but, very different to the variety we have been in the habit of seeing under the same name, this is a first-class flower. Hamlet was good, but surely it is nearly related to Polyphemus. Thalia was grand,—so nicely marked and so pure. (By the by, we believe the late Mr. Charles Barron grew a feathered strain of this: can any of readers in the south tell aught about it, or where it is to be obtained?) George Glenny was interesting, though not quite so good as when shown at Birmingham. As a light pure byblœmen, it is deserving of extensive cultivation. Claudiana, rose, was in good character. Like Royal Sovereign, when it gets to the south, this flower appears to alter its character on coming north. It has never been our good fortune to see it in this part of the country so good as it is produced by the metropolitan growers. The other noticeable flowers in this stand were Pilot, Mary Lamb, and Bijou des Amateurs, all in fine condition.

The first prize for six dissimilar breeders we gained with a stand of seedlings. Amongst the best were Lord Raglan and Hector, bizarres, and Ada, a byblœmen. They were not large, but of excellent form and great purity. Our lucky friend, Mr. Parkyn, of Derby, was second, but thought he ought to have occupied our place; and if size and length of cup could have managed it, of course he would have done so. Mr. Willison, of Whitby was third, and here were Queen and Juliet, two fine seedlings, in good style. Mr. Turner was fourth, with some

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finely grown Chellastons, which exhibited in a considerable degree that quality which florists persist in euphoniously designating "tundishy."

Of seedlings there were not so many as we expected. We noted, however, Lawrence's John Hayward, a large, finely-shaped, feathered bizarre, colour and marking like a fine Magnum Bonum, but infinitely better in cup. W. G. Hardy, Esq. exhibited two blooms of a fine black feathered bizarre, named Prince Arthur, in the style of a good feathered Polyphemus, also a very promising variety. The Rev. S. Creswell had a very beautiful feathered byblœmen, named Miss Creswell, of good form and nicely feathered. We hope, however, to see it again, when not quite so creamy. I. Hunt, Esq. exhibited a pure feathered rose, which, in the scarcity of the class, must for some time be a winner; but it is above the average in length, and consequently rather narrow in petal. J. Thornilly, Esq. also had a feathered rose and feathered bizarre, which we have no doubt will some day take a prominent place in their respective classes.

In class showing, the young flowers told most fearfully, for out of six premiers and thirty-five prizes, thirty-nine came to the midland and northern counties. We do not know that we need recapitulate the flowers here, as they will be seen in the general report, and were all well known varieties. The class of flamed roses was taken entirely by Triomphe Royale, whilst Heroine monopolized five out of six of the feathered. The feathered byblœmen was what is not often seen, a well-filled class. It was indeed a fine exhibition. The room was not, however, half large enough, for the stands and classes occupied the side and middle tables. There was a crowd of fine flowers which could not be appreciated by the company, as they were placed too high for their interiors to be seen. This, however, could not be remedied, and we bear willing testimony to the

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exertions of the committee and the excellence of the management, considering the short time there was for preparation.

It is decided that the exhibition for 1855 shall be held at Cambridge, at which we are truly glad; and we are led to hope that additional *eclat* will be given to the meeting by the patronage of her most gracious Majesty. Should such be the case, what a gathering of florists will there be!

We must now allude to the other parts of the exhibition. That of plants was splendid in the extreme, and the plan adopted, of showing them on a succession of turfy terraces and grassy banks, was a decided hit, and worthy of imitation wherever such a scheme can be carried out. On entering the large covered tent we were perfectly astounded. Let our readers think of some picturesque wooded dell, which has delighted them with its sylvan beauties, and then let them imagine the same locality clothed with trees, shrubs, and flowers of the most beautiful forms, the most dazzling colours, and the most delightful fragrance, and when they have done this, they will have but a faint conception of the reality. We could compare it to nothing but that paradise which our gallant allies, the Turks, are so anxious to realize, surrounded as we were by all that was gorgeous in flowers, and all that was beautiful in the fairer part of God's creation. It was a sight to be remembered for life. There were bushes of azaleas ten to twelve feet high, complete pyramids of flowers, brilliant in the extreme; banks of the most beautifully grown and bloomed geraniums, in which Mr. C. Turner, of Slough, gained the first prize, as well as for fancies, his plants being the very acme of good management; crowds of orchids of the most fantastic forms and rich and glorious colours; roses that would have astonished the most luxurious Persian; ericas loaded with blossoms, forming immense bouquets of the most pleasing hues; whilst calceolarias, cinerarias, and all the most showy and

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popular plants were there in boundless profusion. The banks were in one part bespangled with the most exquisite blooms of pansies, which their little weedy progenitor would now hardly recognize as his descendants, with their rich velvety petals, and brilliant gold, white, and cream-coloured grounds. There were several novelties. Amongst them were Crimson Perfection, good form and centre, with upper petals bronzy crimson. Royal White, a smooth clean flower, an acquisition to a scarce class. Then a beautiful violet purple self, the margins of the petals taking a rich crimson tinge. Ægon was capital, so smooth, and of such good texture. Lord Palmerston and Duchess of Sutherland were also very fine, and must be inquired about.

Our space warns us to conclude. We have still a few memoranda, to which we must refer in our next number, while noticing our visit to Derby on our return, and giving some account of the flowers in that neighbourhood.

ORNAMENTAL PLANTING FOR SMALL GARDENS.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Gardeners' Chronicle* was lately complaining that though for four months in the year his little suburban garden was gay with verbenas, salvias, and the most approved bedding plants, yet the other eight months it looked miserable and naked, and he asks some one to point out a remedy whereby so great a barrenness may be obviated. We will offer a few observations as to how we think the defect complained of may be remedied. We well know that many of our readers have small spaces before their houses, which they desire to embellish and make as gay as possible. In our mind's eye we see many of them. Now, in our opinion, it is preposterous, in small spaces like these, to have a large bed or two, filling them up with

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equally large shrubs,—there ought to be proportion in such miniature affairs. If the garden is small, let the plants be of humble growth, adapted to the extent of the place; and to make these at all times interesting we would put in very low-growing evergreen shrubs, at regular intervals—say at two feet apart each way. These should be stationary, occupying their place winter and summer. In May, between these evergreens, we would plant verbenas, in all their beautiful variety, or merely select one or two sorts, according to our fancy. Then there is the Cuphea platycentra, which makes an interesting dwarf bush, with innumerable scarlet tubular flowers, having a singular black orifice, which contrasts beautifully. Lobelia racemosa, with its varieties, is well adapted for the purpose. There are also the scarlet and the large blue anagallis, very near relatives of that pretty little wild plant often found in dry and exposed places, with its scarlet blossoms, so sensitive in closing its petals on the approach of rain, that it is called the shepherd's weather glass. Some of the dwarf scarlet geraniums, and the variegated ones too, will make first-rate plants for our purpose. Kingsbury Pet is a sweet thing, with remarkably pretty foliage and habit, and round rose-coloured flowers, and contrasts well with Tom Thumb and other dwarf scarlet varieties; but we would avoid strong-growing sorts, such as the Shrubland, &c., they would be out of place in such a situation, where we would not allow any of the plants to get more than eighteen inches high. Chrysanthemum Hendersonii is very effective, and would suit well. Now we want the low-growing evergreen shrubs, and these should be carefully assorted. The dwarf cistus, or helianthus, will do. A more beautiful bedding plant than this there cannot be, and it has the advantage of not rising higher than six inches, and being evergreen in winter. Many fresh varieties have lately been originated, and there is plenty of diversity. Take Cleopatra for a beautiful yellow; Attraction is

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red, with a copper-coloured centre; Sir Robert Peel, deep rose, with a darker eye; Aurantica, orange, with distinct bronze centre, &c. Then there are several of the smaller-leaved vincas, or perriwinkles. These, if allowed, will take the liberty of rambling, but then it is so easy, with finger and thumb, to stop this propensity, and keep them within the prescribed limits. The gold and silver-edged varieties are very beautiful. Another very fine plant is the Daphne cneorum, or garland flower. This, we think, will please everybody, and is admirably adapted for small parterres, being low in habit, evergreen, and producing abundance of beautiful pink and highly fragrant flowers; and the gold-edged variety is still more beautiful, but scarcer. There are yet others to pick at. The neat Rhododendron hirsutum, with its bushy habit and heads of pink flowers; and of this there is a gold-edged variety too. Rododendron ferruginea will be quite applicable; and the pretty Cotoneaster thymifolia, covered with small white hawthornlike blossoms, succeeded by scarlet berries, must not be forgotten. Thus far we have chosen plants with handsome flowers as well as foliage, but the Juniperus tamariscifolia, with its prostrate habit and compact glaucous foliage, will be found very nice. From what we have said, it will be perceived that the beds may be completely covered during summer with beautiful flowers and foliage, whilst at other seasons of the year, when frost has nipped their beauties, and turned their joyous look into a sad and blighted appearance, the reserve will come to the rescue; and though the presence of their gay partners may be missed, still the sober-coloured evergreens will form an interesting feature during the winter and spring months, occupying the post of honour till the returning season brings about a reunion of fresh and fair floral beauties. The principle that we advocate is as well adapted for large as for small places, except that the size of the plants must be proportionate. It will also be useful in flower beds

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running on each side a main path, and in various other localities; though our remarks are made for those amateurs who are the holders of only small plots of ground. It is also desirable on the score of economy. The small evergreens will not want renewing, therefore, after the first year, there will be an annual saving of one-half the plants previously required. The only other way to meet the deficiency complained of would be to have such plants as we have enumerated in pots, with variegated hollies, aucubas, laurustinus, junipers, &c. These might be kept in a reserve garden, to be removed to the beds when the summer plants were gone; but this necessarily entails considerable trouble, time, and expense, we therefore think that our plan will be worthy the consideration and adoption, and be found to answer the purpose of the parties for whom our remarks are especially made.

NEW PLANTS.

In order to suit the taste of all classes of our readers, we are glad to insert in our pages notices of really good novelties, particularly hardy ones, because, as a matter of course, everybody can grow *them*. We do not, however, say where these things are to be obtained, because it is the duty of the parties having them to sell to make it known by advertising. We will start then with hardy perennials.

Dianthus (Barbatus) Criterion.—This belongs to the sweetwilliam section of dianthus, forming a very large and compact head of well-shaped flowers, rose-colour, edged with white, and very double.

Dianthus Grandis.—This is also very large and double, but the flowers are deep rosy purple.

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DODECATHEON ELEGANS STRIATA.—A sweet pretty variety of the American cowslip. Flowers deep pink, with a lighter shade.

PÆONIA (ALBIFLORA) FESTIVA MAXIMA.—A splendid herbaceous pæony, throwing up flower stems at least four feet high, with large white blooms, sparingly spotted with dark crimson.

POTENTILLA MAUVIERI.—The flowers of this fine variety are orange scarlet, and very double; certainly one of the finest of its class.

DICTAMNUS GIGANTEUS.—Grows nearly three feet high, flowers rosy lilac, a decided beat on the other fraxinellas.

NEW HALF HARDY PLANTS,

ADAPTED EITHER FOR POT CULTURE OR BEDDING OUT IN SUMMER.

HORSESHOE-LEAF GERANIUMS.—*Criterion*, one of the finest yet raised. The plant is strong-growing, with large leaves, deeply marked with a dark brown circle. The flowers are produced in large trusses, extremely well formed, the colour salmon, shaded with lilac. *Rose d'Amour*, habit very much like the preceding; the flowers, however, are brilliant carmine.

CHARLEMAGNE VERBENA.—A finely shaped scarlet, of immense size, the eye yellow, with a dark circle round it.

DESFONTAINIA SPINOSA.—This will be a very valuable addition to our hardy evergreens. The foliage is somewhat like the common holly, and it

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produces scarlet flowers, tipped with yellow, tubular in form, and nearly two inches in length.

SCARLET NONPAREIL STRAWBERRY.—This appears to be one of the best raised for many years, being a cross between Keen's Seedling and British Queen. It has been tested by Mr. Thompson, of the Horticultural Society, Mr. Marnock, and Dr. Lindley, all of whom give it a very high character. At the Chiswick show, June 3, some forced fruit was exhibited, and gained the silver Knightian medal. It is fully equal to the British Queen in flavour, with the rich colour of the former.

Some of our readers, we know, grow and exhibit hardy ferns. There is a fine one, named *Ceterach maranta*, just introduced from the Alps of Switzerland. The fronds are about eight inches in length, bipinnate, thickly covered beneath with bronze scales.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

TULIPS.—R. M.—*Neptune*, like Polyphemus, clean in stamens and base, but a dark shade between the body colour and yellow. *Commander-in-Chief*, bizarre breeder, of very fine form, and pure. *Sir C. Napier*, bizarre breeder, a most promising variety, with thick stout petals, clear base and stamens, with darker shade round the circular base, as in Neptune. This is apparent in many varieties, but when the flower becomes rectified feathered, it is not visible. *Model*, also a splendidly-formed bronzy red bizarre breeder, of extreme purity, quite up to the mark. *Omar Pacha* we like extremely; it is a bizarre breeder, perfectly pure in every respect, and quite first-rate. *Duke of Cambridge*, bizarre breeder, quite as good as the preceding. *Romulus*, bizarre breeder, large and pure, but appears to have a boat-shaped petal. *Captain Slade*, bizarre breeder, perfectly pure, stout, slightly pointed. *Admiral Plumridge*, bizarre breeder, small, but very good. *Tricolor*, a very delicate red feather, on a yellow ground, strongly marked with primrose. *Caroline*, rose breeder, appears to have some affinity to Comte de Vergennes, throwing its petals

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back at the top. *Admiral Dundas*, a bizarre breeder, fine form, and good. *Admiral Hamelin*, also a pure lively red breeder, with a brilliant yellow base, very promising. *Romeo*, singular bizarre, very pure, but with a narrower petal than the others of this batch of seedlings. *Lord Raglan*, a fine red bizarre breeder, excellent form. *Antagonist*, heavy flame, in the style of Pilot, but much darker. Too much breeder colour in its present character. *Pocohontas*, fine flamed rose, opens creamy, now quite pure. *Eliza*, rose breeder, rather long, and slightly creamy. *Magnet*, a splendid bizarre breeder. We do not know when we have seen so good a lot of bizarre breeders; undoubtedly some first-rate flowers will break from them.

J. L.—*Lightbody's Alice Maude*, a flamed rose, of excellent shape and great purity, the beam heavy and well defined; a very promising variety.

T. C.—Your *Kate Connor*, with eight petals, is in a beautiful character, and is certainly one amongst the best new roses out.

I. N.—A splendid break of *Joan of Arc*. As the flower was getting old, it became a dark purplish rose, very pure and heavily feathered. The *Martha*, feathered rose, is also a very promising flower, though rather creamy as sent. We think our Lancashire friends, if they continue to raise flowers like the three preceding, will soon supersede many of the older varieties.

CINERARIAS.—I. C.—No. 1, very pretty; evidently from Lady Hume Campbell, of which there are now many seedlings, bearing a strong family likeness. Good dark elevated disk, pure white ground, deep purple tip, shaded off to lilac. No. 2, white not so good as the preceding, heavily edged with blue. No. 3, white, purple tip, notched and rather wide between the points of the petals. No. 4, violet purple, not much. No. 5, white, with still narrower petals. We think No. 1 by far the best of the batch.

I. H.—The dark self pansy is large and of good form; worth naming and propagating. The canary self is large, with a fine bold eye; not so good in form as the preceding, but yet a desirable flower. The others will not do.

DOWNIE & LAIRD.—*Beauty*, a fine stout flower, of excellent form, conspicuous eye, purple, on white ground, with broad heavy belting. One of the best flowers for exhibition purposes we have seen this season. No. 4, '54, a promising dark plum self, fine brow and good centre. If it can be grown larger, it will make one of the best of its class.

G. S.—Your pansies did not come in very good condition, had a little damp blotting paper been placed between the blooms they would have arrived safely. *Emily*, a fine showy purple-[illegible]ted flower, on a straw ground. The colour is rather

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stronger on the lower petals, and there is a "fringiness' about them also, which detracts from its merit. *William Cobbett*, a very rich orange ground flower, strong eye, upper petals and belting extremely dark, nearly black. This flower we entertain a high opinion of. *Chillington*, also a good flower, of fine form, and novel in colour, orange ground, with strong eye, belting and upper petals being puce-coloured. No. 1 was so withered that we do not like to risk an opinion: send another flower, as it appears promising. No. 2, bronzy purple self, in the way of Satirist, but a better flower. We are not partial to indistinct "smudgy" colours, but it is good of its class.

CALCEOLARIA.—C. W. H.—Your seedling yellow, mottled and spotted with bronze, is a rich and pretty flower, all that it requires is novelty. There has been very many much in the same character sent to us this season; in fact, their name is "legion."

RETROSPECTIVE CRITICISM.

DESTRUCTION OF TULIPS.

IT would appear that our old friend, Wm. Parkinson, of Derby, has mended his ways, and that his tulip bed is not so flat and bad as we imagined, and that though he used to strip his bulbs of their protecting skin, at the last planting time he omitted doing so, and still the loss continued. So that it seems, whether skinless or otherwise, there must be some other cause for the mischief; but we will give his own words.

"You say that previous to planting, I divest them of their skin. This I have previously been in the habit of doing, but being advised by yourself and other kind friends not to peel them, last season, I planted them without, and the result is, I have lost more this year than ever I did before. I have this instant received a letter from a kind friend, who

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proffers his aid in a very feeling manner, and who is a very skilful, successful, and scientific florist, and he says he invariably peels his bulbs before planting, and that he never has any of these disasters. I have been in the habit, for several years, of losing many hundred bulbs, and I have devoted much attention to the subject, and have drained, and tried everything I can think of, but to no avail. I have every year, for the last four years, got worse, ever since I went to my present situation, which is a low one, and yet, strange to say, it is the lowest end of my bed which escapes the best. I have searched the roots over and over again, when I have perceived them turn black, or begin to flag, and invariably found grown one or two inches of fine white fibre, or root, as healthy as possible to be, and yet a sort of mildew and canker has killed the stem just above the bulb, which has compelled me to believe that it is excess of moisture that is the cause, but how to prevent this I know not, except by changing my situation the first opportunity. The land that my house and garden stands upon was, five years ago, a meadow. The land rises in a sloping direction towards the house. The present depth of the soil, at the top end of the bed, is about thirty inches, and at the bottom end, about fifteen inches, on a clayey subsoil. The lowest end gets the most sun in winter, and the bulbs never perish at that end, while at the top end, which you would suppose the driest, I have not so much as one bulb escaped, on either bed, for the extent of about twenty rows. Last latter end, I thought I had certainly discovered the cause of their rotting in that particular part of the bed, by digging down to the subsoil and finding a floor, on which the bricklayers had mixed their mortar. Having broken it up, and lightened the soil from the bottom on most parts of the bed, I thought I had remedied the evil, but had only aggravated it; for where I had dug deep there every bulb perished. Having given this rather tedious statement, if any of

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your intelligent readers can throw any light upon the subject, they will render a great service to the growers about this neighbourhood, and oblige your humble servant,

"WM. PARKINSON.

"*Abbey-street, Derby, June* 11, 1854."

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

FLORAL THIEVES.—We very much regret to learn that several collections of tulips have been seriously plundered, to the great mortification and loss of their owners. As this offence appears to be on the increase, we trust that every well-wisher to floriculture will lend us a helping hand to discover the perpetrators. All who have gardens are interested in the matter, for they are equally liable to have any plant or flower stolen with those who cultivate florists' flowers. Amongst those who have been victimized are Mr. Geo. Hudson, of Kingston, who has lost a Queen Charlotte, several Captain Whites, and some good seedling breeders. Mr. R. Lineker, of Nottingham, has also suffered seriously; whilst on Whit-Monday night, Mr. D. Barber, of Stanton-by-Dale, Derbyshire, had three fine roots of Abbott's Gem, feathered byblœmen, stolen. Now we shall esteem it a favour if any one will, on purchasing, or having offered to him for sale, this variety, from the midland counties, communicate with us, as Mr. Barber, as well as ourselves, have a strong suspicion of who is the guilty party, and every endeavour will be made to bring the crime home to him. We know most of the holders of this variety, and if not discovered now, we still hope that when the bulbs bloom, we shall find out the thief. Will Mr. Allestree, of Draycott, and Mr. Abbott, furnish us with a list of persons to

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whom they have sold the variety. We shall also be glad to hear from any other person who possesses it, for no means will be left untried to discover the vagabonds. In future we would advise parties who have been robbed, to write immediately to us, stating the time, the varieties taken, and any evidence they may have, and we will give them our best aid. We have means of obtaining information from all parts of the united kingdom, which few florists possess, and which we might bring to bear for the suppression of this skulking, heartless villany.

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN, REGENT'S PARK, JUNE.—The exhibition of American plants held here, under canvas, is scarcely so good this season as we have seen it in former years. Individually the plants may have flowered well, but as a whole they have certainly not been remarkably effective or striking, owing to the successional way in which the different varieties have come into bloom, of which there has never been so great an amount at one time as there was wont to be in more favourable seasons. The azaleas are nearly over, while the broad-leaved kalmias are scarcely yet in flower. Of rhododendrons there is, however, a fair display, and any of the large standard specimens from Mr. John Waterer, of Bagshot, are of themselves well worth a journey of many miles to see, independent of the masses of smaller plants contributed by Messrs. Standish and Noble, of the same place, and Mr. Baker of Windlesham. The most brilliant by far of the first named group is "John Waterer," a variety remarkable for the very large heads of glowing deep crimson flowers which it possesses. It has also the advantage of being a free flowerer, and is reported to be sufficiently late to be out of the reach of spring frosts. Blandyanum is also a very brilliant kind, but it is scarcely late enough. Erectum, which is a shade lighter than John Waterer, is likewise a valuable kind. Blatteum, a variety bred from the last named sort, is one of the best of

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the Victoria family. It is a free bloomer, its trusses of flowers being very large. Lady Eleanor Cathcart resembles a pelargonium more than anything else with which we can compare it. Its flowers are pink, with a dark blotch in the upper petals, and the trusses are large and handsome. Atrosanguineum is good in colour; but the truss is somewhat loose, and it does not flower sufficiently late. Duke of Norfolk is a medium-sized pleasing rosy pink kind, without spot; and Elegans is a good rosy crimson, with apparently much of the Catawbiense breed about it. Omar Pacha, a new variety, very dark, and with a deep velvety tinge, is a seedling from Waterer's Victoria; it is however, many shades darker than that sort, and is certainly more singular than beautiful. Among light-coloured kinds, Everestianum still holds a prominent place, not only on account of the beauty of its flowers, but the abundance with which they are produced. Cyaneum is a good dark kind, with a bluish tinge. Of spotted sorts, Leopardi, or perhaps more properly "the Leopard," is the best, and it is a very late kind. Waterer's Delicatissimum is a handsome light variety, as are also Album elegans, and Luciferum. Sherwoodianum is a good pale rose, with a dark blotch. Duc de Brabant is new; it has white flowers, tinged with violet, and spotted with brown in the upper petals. It is in the way of Pictum, and perhaps scarcely so handsome. The gem of Messrs. Standish and Noble's group is a new Belgian kind, called Concessum. It has rosy pink flowers of the most vivid description, and excellent in shape and substance. The brilliancy of the pink in each floret is relieved by a pale centre, by which the general appearance of the truss is much improved. This is certainly a great acquisition, and one which cannot fail to be every body's favourite. Among other sorts not mentioned above, a light kind, called Ruth, and Mutltimaculatum, were perhaps the most remarkable. In Mr. Baker's collection the small lilac-flowered semi-double Hyacinthiflorum was

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in good condition. This makes a charming standard. A kind called Kalmioides has rosy lilac flowers, and foliage much resembling that of the broad-leaved kalmia. Maculatum grandiflorum is one of the best of the Victoria family. Versicolor is a pleasing sort; but it is not seen here in good condition. Nivaticum is a pretty white kind, tinged with pink, and spotted with yellowish brown in the upper petals. Catawbiense splendida is also worthy of attention, as is also C. elegans. Baker's Delicatissimum is a handsome light variety, with more violet in it than Waterer's. Wilsoni and Ignescens, two brilliant new crimson kinds, are said to be very striking and handsome, but of these we only saw single flowers. We remarked a kalmia in this group, with very deep coloured blossoms, and a prettily flowered plant of the dwarf Rhododendron ferrugineum.—*Gardeners' Chronicle.*

Royal South London Floricultural Society, June 13.—The weather on this occasion was very unpropitious, and the attendance small. One tent was wholly occupied with pelargoniums, of which there were some good collections. The best came from Mr. Turner, of Slough, who had admirable plants of Esther, Queen of May, Mochanna, Magnet, Exactum, Medora, Astrea, and Arethusa. The same exhibiter had also six fancy kinds, consisting of Richard Cobden, Jenny Lind, Triumphant, Miss Shepherd, Madame Sontag, and Electra. Mr. Robinson, who was first in the amateurs' class, had Portia, Optimum, Exactum, Salamander, Star, and Novelty. This cultivator's fancies were Celestial, Delicatissimum, Jenny Lind, Princess Maria, Galitzin, Fairy Queen, and Magnum Bonum. Some pinks were shown, but they were stated to have been forced, to get them into bloom in time, and therefore they were not in very good condition. J. H. Baker, Esq., had Ruby and Koh-i-noor (Bragg), Titus (Edward), Mary (Phillips), Laura (Willmer), Prince Albert (Kirtland), Countess Rosse (Read), Sarah (Turner),

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A. Morrison (Coster), Teddington (Bottle), Colchester Cardinal (Norman), and Mr. Cousins (Cousins). Mr. Turner produced Rubens (Henbrey), Pandora (White), Prince Albert (Kirtland), Arthur, Sarah, Optima, Esther, Hebe, and Perfection (Turner), Rose Empress (Carter), Mrs. Maclean (Maclean), and Medora (Looker). The following pansies were also shown by Mr. Turner, viz., Duke of Norfolk, Earl of Mansfield, Flower of the Day, Mrs. Marnock, Pomona, Miss Talbot, Victory, Euphemia, Charles Turner, Royal Albert, Thisbe, Queen of the Isles, Lady Emily, Blanche, Memnon, Marian, Attila, Fair Rosamond, Satisfaction, British Queen, Monarch, Mr. and Mrs. Beck, Royal Visit, Pandora, Lady Carrington, Emperor, Caroline, Aristides, Royal White, Sultan, Miss Stuart, Sovereign, Mrs. Hamilton, Egon, and Sir J. Cathcart. Cut blooms of pæonies and irises were furnished by Mr. Salter, of Hammersmith, and there was a whole tent filled with stove and greenhouse plants. Seedlings chiefly consisted of pelargoniums. A first-class certificate was awarded to Phaeton, a vivid orange-scarlet, with a bluish white throat, and upper petals blotched and edged with crimson, shape good; also to Serena, which we have described before. Other seedling pelargoniums were Vesper, a white kind, blotched on all the petals with purplish crimson; Petruchio, Pandora, and Lord Raglan; the last a brilliant free-flowering sort, which, although not quite perfect as a florist's flower, will, nevertheless, make a good market plant. These were all from Mr. Turner, of Slough. Among calceolarias, only one received a certificate. It was named Pandora, a straw-coloured-ground kind, with mottled orange-scarlet blotch, and tolerably good shape, except that it was too large in the throat. It was shown by Mr. Clarke.—*Gardeners' Chronicle.*

STORING APPLES.—A London merchant, whose fruit, when freshly gathered from the tree, could scarcely have a more crisp and juicy appearance than

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some which he had preserved for the best part of a year, gives his system of storing as follows:—"I provide a number of wide-mouthed earthenware jars, no matter of what size, so that they will contain each not less then a gallon, which size, however, I consider most convenient. If I have the least apprehension of their being damp, I have them put, for two or three days, in a warm place in my kitchen, or, for one or two days consecutively, in a slow oven, which, perhaps, is a better mode. Conjointly with this jar-drying process, I procure a bushel or so of sharp clean white sand, which I thoroughly bake. Thus much for the preliminaries; now to business. When the apples which I wish to preserve are perfectly ripe, not dead ripe, but sufficiently so to be full-flavoured, I carefully go over the trees myself, on a fine sunny day, which I devote wholly to this little hobby of mine, selecting only the handsomest and best fruits. These I very carefully separate from the tree by slightly raising each in a direction contrary to that in which it has grown; for, if they are ripe, they will readily separate without damaging the stem; if they do not, I leave them for another opportunity. As I pick them one by one, they are cautiously deposited in a wide shallow basket, which my man carries for me, in the bottom of which is a layer of thick wadding, to prevent the possibility of bruising, a contingency which every precaution must be taken to prevent. Well, I have enough for one jar, and the process of filling that will illustrate my system as well as a hundred. I first strew a layer of the dried sand over the bottom of the jar, about half-an-inch thick. Upon this I place as many apples, with their stems uppermost, as the space will contain without the apples touching each other (they should be half-an-inch apart), or the sides of the jar. I hold perfect isolation, with respect to each other, as an essential item in my system. Upon this first layer of fruit I strew sand sufficient to fill in the spaces between them, and to form a layer half-an-inch thick

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above them. Then another layer of apples then sand again, and so on, to within three inches of the top: that space I fill with sand. To ensure the thorough filling in between and around the apples, as each layer is placed gently tap the sides of the jar; this will also consolidate the whole, as it were, into one mass. When the filling is completed, place the jar in a cold dry room, where the temperature is tolerably uniform, and where they will not be disturbed until wanted. An ordinary store-room, if a proper one, will do very well. It will be observed that I lay great stress upon careful handling, to prevent bruising, upon the fruit being perfectly ripe, and upon perfect isolation with respect to each other when in the jars. That the fruit should be without the slightest bruise I hold to be highly essential to the success of my plan as regards preservation, and that they should be fully ripe, to ensure the natural flavour of the variety. As regards the separation of each other, that, too, is also important, for should one by chance become rotten, which, however, rarely happens, the contagion is confined to where it originated. Their being, as it were, hermetically sealed and uninfluenced by variations of temperature, the fluids of the fruit have little to contend with from external agency.—CRAYON. —*Gardeners' Chronicle.*

PAGE'S PRODIGY PEA.—Seeds of this very dwarf and early variety were obtained from Messrs. Page and Co., of Oxford-street, Southampton, whose name it bears, and were sown side by side with many others in the first week of December last. It has proved equally early as the Frame and Danecroft Rival, and much more so than the Long-pod Dwarf, to which it bears some resemblance; but it differs from that variety in the leaves being somewhat smaller, and the plant of a more dwarf habit. I send raw specimens of both sorts, to show their difference, and the precocity and prolific habit of the Prodigy Pea. I have found it an admirable variety for cultivating on the

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beds of a large fruit house at this place, and I consider it well adapted either for pot or frame culture, or for growing at the bottom of fruit tree walls, where a protection could readily be afforded it from the inclemency of the weather.—JAMES DUNCAN, *Basing Park, May* 14.—[The Prodigy was covered with small pods, containing on an average four peas each, while the pods on the Long-pod had scarcely formed, and of course contained no peas fit for use.]—*Gardeners' Chronicle.*

EARLY TULIPS.—For the amateur of limited means these are a valuable tribe of spring-flowering plants. They are cheap, and easy to cultivate, requiring but little attention, and while they annually adorn the flower-clump, or sitting-room window, their numbers will increase, until the only difficulty will be to find room for them. During April and May, they add an inexpressible charm to the flower-border, and do not withdraw their unequalled colours and sweet perfume until their place can be supplied with the usual bedding-out plants. What, for instance, can be compared with a bed of the Tournesol for the regularity of surface, and the splendour of its two distinct colours? Next in size and beauty is a single variety called Keizar Kroon, which is indeed a noble flower. It has a very bright yellow ground, flaked with a vivid scarlet, and is in every respect "Queen" of the single early tulips. Rex rubrorum is a double variety of a brilliant crimson, also very large; a bed of it presents a very regular surface, and long continuance of bloom. Royal Standard is a pleasing flower, with a pure white ground, beautifully flaked with carmine, making a striking contrast. Belle Alliance is another single flower, very attractive, of a vivid red colour, a self. The new scarlet Van Thol is very similar to it, but it has this difference, that it very often breaks into a flaked flower, orange and red. Grand Master of Malta and Bride of Haarlem are very similar in colours, having both pure white

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grounds, distinctly striped, and flaked with bright crimson. Alida Maria is a flower in the same style, but very dwarf in habit. Superintendent is a fine kind, white, with a violet flake. Conqueror is double and has the same colours. The best double pure white is La Candeur; as single whites, White Swan and Pottebakker are the best. Amongst yellows we have the yellow Van Thol, dwarf and showy; the yellow Pottebakker, and the old Double Yellow, which is rather later in flowering. From February till May, they may be also easily had in flower for the window. In forming a small collection, the following are suitable to begin with:—Van Thol, single and double; Rex rubrorum, Tournesol, Florentine, and Mariage de ma Fille. The outlay for a dozen of each of these varieties will not exceed the cost of one dozen of first-class hyacinths, and while the latter have to be bought annually, these will last for years. —*Gardeners' Chronicle.*

At the Artizans' Floral and Horticultural Society's Rooms, Crown Inn, Nottingham, on the 22nd of April, a first-class certificate was awarded to Verbena Sir Charles Napier. Colour rosy carmine, with distinct yellow centre. The truss is large, and habit good. Raised by Mr. S. Hamson, Nottingham.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. Cooke.—You ask the difference between alpine and the other four classes of auriculas. Alpines have always yellow or straw-coloured grounds, the other part being all shades of purple, crimson, and bronze. Auriculas, on the contrary, whether green, grey, white-edged, or selfs, have the ground colour, or "paste," as it is termed, white. Berry's Lord Lee, though shown as an auricula, being a crimson self, has a great affinity to an alpine, owing to its defective paste. It may be considered as intermediate.

R. S.—Much obliged. We are aware that the party alluded to is strongly suspected of being a "tulip thief." We have our eye on him.

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S. T.—You will see that the national tulip show is to be held at Cambridge, next year. We cannot answer your other query, as all those things are left with the management for the time being. We have no doubt it will be carried out in first-rate style.

G. P.—Yours is a small bloom of Arlette.

J. M.—We agree with you that it is useless planting half hardy pines, cypresses, &c. in this part of the country. To make up your loss and to avoid further disappointment, plant Cryptomeria Japonica, Thuja (arborvitæ) aurea, empetrifolia, and Sieboldii. They have all stood the winter well; the two former are now of a rich golden green and very beautiful. Pinus pinsapo, P. Cephalonica, and P. macrocarpa, will be found very suitable; and Taxus (yew) Dovastoni, T. Japonica, T. ericoides, and T. recurvata are all hardy, distinct, and pretty. As to the cypresses you allude to, we have them, but as they have been planted out since the frost, we cannot yet speak to their hardiness.

W. W.—If your pompon chrysanthemums have been repotted, stopped, and begun to emit laterals, half plunge the pots—(we have a bed of sand for this purpose)—in a south-eastern border, taking care that they do not want for water. You may anticipate a good bloom, when they are brought into the greenhouse, in autumn.

B. T.—To cover your dead ugly wall, as you call it, plant ivies. There will be room for six. Take the following, and then you will have diversity of foliage enough:—Irish, Palmata, Rœrgiana, Taurica, variegated, and the Algiers.

J. P.—We know of no plan for destroying the wireworm but catching and killing them. A potato, divided in halves, is the best trap to entice them. We have often seen carnations destroyed like yours. You must excuse us, but you are either a very young beginner, or very careless at potting time, or we do not see how you could now find three wireworms in a pot.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

NATIONAL TULIP SHOW,

Royal Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, May 24.

STANDS OF SIX BLOOMS.

1. Mr. Parkyn, Derby, with Pilot, Triomphe Royale, Gibbons's Salvator Rosa, Heroine, Sovereign, and Maid of Orleans.

2. Mr. Lawrence, Brown's Ulysses, Bloemart, Triomphe Royale, Maid of Orleans, Arlette, and Glory of Abingdon.

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3. J. Thornilly, Esq., Maid of Orleans, Heroine, Charles X., Queen Charlotte, Lachesis, and Pilot.

4. Mr. J. F. Wood, of Nottingham, Platoff, Heroine, Norwich Baguet, Sir Joseph Paxton, Aglaia, and Queen Charlotte.

5. Mr. Spencer, Sovereign, Victoria Regina, Heroine, Captain White, Lord Denman, and Triomphe Royale.

STANDS OF TWELVE BLOOMS.—AMATEURS.

1. Rev. S. Creswell, Radford, Nottingham, with Polyphemus, Bloemart, Prince Arthur, Aglaia, Lady Denman, Strong's King, Vicar of Radford, Princess Royal, Sphinx, Triomphe Royale, Mary Lamb, and Prince of Wales.

2. R. H. Betteridge, Esq., Countess of Harrington, Glory of Abingdon, Madame Catalani, Royal Sovereign, Mary Anne, La Belle Actrice, Triomphe Royale, Thalia, Triomphe du Monde, Everard, Polyphemus, and Claudiana.

3. — Sanders, Esq., Victory, Earl Douglas, Claudiana, Enchantress, Acapulca, Thomas Brown, General Barneveldt, Marcellus, Ariadne, Maid of Orleans, Duchess of Sutherland, and Surpasse Catafalque.

4. J. Thornilly, Esq., Charles X., Rufus, Heroine, Antagonist, Gibbons's Salvator Rosa, Princess Sophia, Polyphemus, Princess Royal, Triomphe Royale, Criterion, and Surpasse Catafalque.

STANDS OF EIGHTEEN BLOOMS.

1. Mr. Lawrence, Hampton, Middlesex, Dickson's Duke of Devonshire, Madame Vestris, Nora Creina, Polyphemus, Rose Lucetta, Bloemart, Elthiron, Captain White, Lady Wildair, Thalia, Earl Douglas, Mountain Sylph, Triomphe Royale, Queen of the North, Pilot, Lawrence's Sarah, Maid of Orleans, and Vivid.

2. Mr. J. F. Wood, the Coppice, Nottingham, Apelles, Walker's King, Vicar of Radford, Triomphe Royale, Beauty of the Plain, Brown's Salvator Rosa, Sir J. Paxton, Magnum Bonum, Heroine, Aglaia (flame), Lady Denman, Rembrandt, Everard, Vivid, Kate Connor, Aglaia (feather), Queen Charlotte, and Lady Flora Hastings.

3. Mr. C. Turner, Royal Nursery, Slough, Bucks, Chellaston Rose, Bijou des Amateurs, Pilot, Alexander Magnus, Claudiana, Princess Royal, Mary Lamb, Hamlet, Hadame Vestris, Vivid, Thalia, Triomphe Royale (flamed rose), Optimus, Acapulca, Captain White, George Glenny, Chellaston Beauty, and Polyphemus.

PREMIER PRIZES.

Flamed Bizarre, Pilot, Mr. Parkyn, Derby. Feathered Bizarre, Royal Sovereign, Mr. Godfrey. Flamed Byblœmen, Lord Denman, Mr. Godfrey. Feathered Byblœmen, Victoria Regina, Mr. Spencer. Flamed Rose, Triomphe Royale, Mr. Turner.

STANDS OF SIX DIFFERENT BREEDERS.

1. Mr. J. F. Wood, of Nottingham. 2. Mr. Parkyn, of Derby. 3. Mr. Willison, of Whitby. 4. Mr. Turner, of Slough. Other stands where shown by Mr. Hunt, of Wickham; Mr. Hepworth, of Leyton, and Mr. Adams, of Derby.

CLASS SHOWING.

Flamed Bizarres.—1. Pilot, Mr. Godfrey. 2. Ditto, ditto. 3. Polyphemus, Mr. Lawrence. 4. Everard, Mr. Thornilly. 5. Pilot, ditto. 6. Polyphemus, ditto.

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Feathered Bizarres.—1. Sovereign, Mr. Godfrey. 2. Platoff, Mr. Lymberry. 3. Sovereign, Mr. Godfrey. 4. Sovereign, Mr. Spencer. 5. Magician, Mr. Houghton. 6. Sovereign, ditto.

Flamed Roses.—1. Triomphe Royale, Mr. Godfrey. 2. Ditto, ditto, 3. Triomphe Royale, Mr. Spencer. 4. Triomphe Royale, Mr. Parkyn. 5. Triomphe Royale, Mr. Lymberry. 6. Ditto, ditto.

Feathered Roses.—1. Heroine, Mr. Godfrey. 2. Heroine, Mr. Spencer. 3. Heroine, Mr. Godfrey. 4. Ditto, ditto. 5. Heroine, Mr. Houghton. 6. Monument, Mr. Lymberry.

Flamed Byblœmens.—1. Princess Royal, Mr. Houghton. 2. Queen Charlotte, Mr. Spencer. 3. General Barneveldt, Mr. Thornilly. 4. Sarah Anne, Mr. Creswell. 5. Nepaulese Prince, Mr. Lymberry. 6. Queen Charlotte, ditto.

Feathered Byblœmens.—1. Maid of Orleans, Mr. Lymberry. 2. Maid of Orleans, Mr. Godfrey. 3. Maid of Orleans, Mr. Creswell. 4. Black Diamond, T. Adams, Esq. 5. Victoria Regina, Mr. Spencer.

AMATEUR TULIP SOCIETY.

Eleventh Annual Exhibition, Horns Tavern, Kennington, May 22.

Censors.—Mr. Henry Goldham, Mr. Robert, Lawrence, Mr. Willmer, and Mr. Lightbody.

1st Prize, S. Sanders, Esq. Staines, with Maid of Orleans, Ariadne, Marcellus, Maid of Athens, Enchantress, Thomas Brown, General Bournonville, Lavinia, and Caliph.

2nd. R. H. Betteridge, Esq., Abingdon, Countess of Harrington, Glory of Abingdon, Catalani, Royal Sovereign, Claudiana, Thalia, Triomphe Royale, Triomphe du Monde, and Charles Brown.

3rd. J. F. Holmes, Esq., New Hampton, Princess Royal, Everard, Bloemart, Sphinx, Aglaia, Perfection, Rose Magnificent, Maid of Athens, and Cerise Blanche.

4th. C. L. Crook, Brixton, Purple Perfection, Triomphe Royale, Brook's Sophia (rose), Selim, Polyphemus, Vivid, Bijou des Amateurs, Madame Vestris, and Crook's Carolus (byblœmen).

5th. N. Norman, Esq., Woolwich, Triomphe Royale, Vivid, Lady Stanley, Glory of Abingdon, Seedling Byblœmen, Mary Lamb, Lord Bloomfield, Duke of Devonshire, and Roi de Siam.

6th. E. T. Clark, Esq., Camberwell, Albion, Royal George, Rose Quarto, Purple Perfection, Lachesis, Duke of Devonshire, Strong's King, Brilliant, and Countess Liverpool.

The best of the losing Stands, P. Wallace, Esq., Petersham, Duke of Devonshire, General Bournonville, Manteau Ducale, Cleopatra, Cerise Belleforme, David, Marcellus, Astonishing, and Lycurgus.

Norman's Mrs. Bowles, a new seedling byblœmen, was recommended by the censors.

SOUTH LONDON AMATEUR FLORISTS.

At the Horns Tavern, May 23.

Twelve Dissimilar Blooms.—1. Cleopatra, Holmes's King, General Barneveldt, Bijou des Amateurs, Hamlet, Vivid, Marcellus, Cerise Belleforme, Ceres, Blanche, Manteau Ducale, Astonishing, and Lycurgus, P. Wallace, jun., Esq. 2. Hamlet, Platoff, Strong's King, Carlo Dolci, Princess Royal, Lady Stanley, Bloemart, General Barneveldt, Duchess of Sutherland, Aglaia, Triomphe Royale, and

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Minerva, Joseph Hunt, Esq. 3. Pilot Polyphemus, Duke of Devonshire, Emperor of China, Rodney, Holmes's King, Maid of Orleans, Rubens, Triomphe Royale, Mountain Sylph, Madame Vestris, and Rose Camuse, W. Dutson, Esq. 4. Ulysses, Darius, Glory of Abingdon, Junius Brutus, Alcon, Lalla Rookh, Chellaston Beauty, General Barneveldt, Aglaia, Cerise Belleforme, Triomphe Royale, and Sarah, Dr. Bushell.

For Mr. Lawrence's Prizes.—1. Lustre, Glencoe, Hamlet, Strong's Queen, Bijou des Amateurs, Holmes's King, Triomphe de Lisle, David, Lady Wildair, Camuse, Lady Jane, and Triomphe Royale, P. Wallace, jun., Esq. 2. Albion, Surpasse Polyphemus, Lord Brougham, Duke of Devonshire, Triomphe Royale, Lady Stanley, Rose unknown, Dutch Ponceau, Siam, Holmes's King, Maid of Orleans, and Rubens, W. Dutson, Esq. 3. Hamlet, Darius, Optimus, Sheet Anchor, Ambassador, Princess Royal, Nora Creina, Lady Vernon, Mountain Sylph, Triomphe Royale, Aglaia, and Rose Quarto, J. Hunt, Esq.

Six Blooms.—1. Polyphemus, Austria, Siam, Rubens, Fleur des Dames, and Triomphe Royale, T. Rose, Esq. 2. General Dessaix, Junius Brutus, Cleopatra, Violet Norwell, Mountain Sylph, and Lord Byron, Mr. C. Noke. 3. Platoff, Albion, Holmes's King, Lalla Rookh, Triomphe Royale, and Rose Emily, J. H. Baker, Esq.

Mr. Slater, of Manchester, exhibited some fine flowers from the north, amongst which were Sir H. Pottinger, a byblœmen, after the style of Pandora, perhaps firmer in the petal, but very good. Earl of Radnor, a clean bizarre, pale yellow ground, and edge inclined to turn over. Cora, a bright heavily flamed rose, very clean at the base. Sir J. Reynolds, a clean heavy bizarre. Adonis, like a fine Sanzoe, splendid shape and finely feathered, but "not without spot or blemish." Will Scarlet, a novel red-edged bizarre, pale yellow, and globular form. Lady Helen Marr, a fine heavy rose; and last, though not least, Kate Connor, a very pretty, bright, pure, delicate rose.

HAMMERSMITH PANSY SOCIETY.

Class I. (Nurserymen.)—1. Mr. C. Turner, with thirty-six blooms, viz., Marion, Monarch, Euphemia, Flower of the Day, Royal Standard, Gliffe, Mrs. Hamilton, Memnon, Mrs. Talbot, Comet, British Queen, Lord Palmerston, Earl Mansfield, Satisfaction, Climax, Sir J. Cathcart, Blanche, Emperor, Uncle Tom, Pandora, Miss Stewart, Victory, Mrs. Mills, Pomona Superb, Royal Visit, Duke of Perth, Caroline, Mr. Beck, Fair Rosamond, Sir J. Paxton, Royal White, Lord J. Russell, Marchioness of Bath, Thisbe, National, and Fearless.

Class II.—2. Mr. W. Bragg, Slough, with Ophir, Post Captain, Hercules, Georgiana, Sampson, Marchioness of Bath, Lucida, Duke of Perth, Timour, Royal White, Polyphemus, Miss Talbot, Pandora, Royal Visit, Sir J. Paxton, Kate, Monarch, Velvet, Grace Darling, Mrs. Hunt, Androcles, Queen of England, Mr. Thompson, Bragg's Amelia, Great Western, Euphemia, Alfred the Great, St. Andrew, Dreadnought, Caroline, Mrs. Beck, Lady Carrington, Masterpiece, British Queen, Fearless, and Criterion.

Class III. (Amateurs.)—1. Mr. Lane, Wycombe, with twenty-four blooms, viz., Royal Visit, Aristides, Mrs. Hamilton, Ophir, Euphemia, Egon, Emperor, Climax, Polyphemus, Aurora, Nonsuch, National, Queen of England, France Cycole, Exquisite, Duke of Perth, Duchess of Rutland, Timour, Addison, Keepsake, Lucy Neal, Marchioness of Lothian, Sambo, and Androcles. 2. Mr. August, Beddington, with Duke of Norfolk, Queen of England, Joe Miller, Duke

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of Perth, Sir J. Paxton, Miss Talbot, Aurora, Commander-in-Chief, British Queen, Royal Visit, Mrs. Beck, Marchioness of Bath, Sir J. Cathcart, Maria Dickson, Master Lacon, Mrs. Hamilton, Ibrahim Pacha, Monarch, France Cycole, Ophir, Thisbe, Lucy Neal, Pandora, and St. Andrew. 3. Mr. Holder, Eton College, with Lucida, Mrs. Rouse, Sampson, Marchioness of Bath, Duke of Perth, Royal Visit, Kate, Alfred the Great, British Queen, Ophir, Mr. Thompson, Great Western, Ibrahim Pacha, Optima, Post Captain, Euphemia, Sir J. Paxton, Mrs. Coleridge, Mrs. Hunt, Fearless, National, Androcles, St. Andrew, and Monarch.

Open Class, Seedlings.—First-class certificates were awarded to Mr. Turner, for Lord Palmerston, Memnon, and Satisfaction.

Extra Prizes.—For the Best Six Yellow Grounds.—1. Sir J. Cathcart, Duke of Norfolk, Robert Burns, Mr. Beck, Thisbe, and Pandora, Mr. August. 2. Timour, Pandora, Sir J. Paxton, Alfred the Great, Duke of Norfolk, and Mr. Thompson, Mr. Holder, Eton College.——For the Best Six White Grounds.—1. National, Mrs. Rouse, Marquis of Bath, Royal Visit, Climax, and Queen of England, Mr. Holder, Eton College. 2. Aurora, Exquisite, Queen of England, Duchess of Rutland, Euphemia, and Climax, Mr. Lane, of Wycombe.

For the best flower in the exhibition, the prize was awarded to Mr. Lane, Wycombe, for the variety called Egon.

TULIP SHOW.

At the Arboretum, Derby, May 25.

Six Dissimilar Blooms.—1. Mr. Godfrey, with Sovereign, Pilot, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Maid of Orleans, and Lord Denman. 2. Mr. T. Storer, Captain White, Sovereign, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Baguet, and Queen Charlotte. 3. Mr. C. Spencer, Sovereign, Captain White, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Regina, and Princess Royal. 4. Mr. J. Lowe, Duke of Devonshire, Pilot, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Chellaston Beauty, and Sarah Ann. 5. Mr. J. Parkins, Sovereign, Pilot, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Lord Denman, Venus.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Sovereign, Mr. J. Lowe
2 Sovereign, Mr. Godfrey
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Vivid, Mr. Allestree
5 Polyphemus, Mr. T. Storer
6 Platoff, Mr. Worthington

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Pilot, Mr. Allestree
2 Pilot, Mr. J. Storer
3 Vivid, Mr. Allestree
4 Everard, ditto
5 Milton, Mr. Storer
6 Polyphemus, Mr. C. Forman

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Chellaston Beauty, Mr. Forman
2 Orleans, Mr. Godfrey
3 Gem, Mr. Allestree
4 Victoria Regina, Mr. C. Spencer
5 Chellaston Beauty, Mr. Forman
6 Baguet, Mr. Greasley

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Sarah Ann, Mr. Allestree
2 Blanche Violet, Mr. Worthington
3 Venus, Mr. J. Gibbons
4 George Glenny, Mr. T. Allestree
5 Princess Royal, Mr. J. Storer
6 Lord Denman, ditto

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Mr. Godfrey
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Heroine, Mr. Godfrey
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Heroine, Mr. C. Spencer
6 Madame Vestris, Mr. Worthington

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, Mr. Godfrey
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Lady Jane Grey, Mr. Storer
4 Magnificent, Mr. J. Parkins
5 Princess Royal, Mr. J. Godfrey
6 Princess Royal, Mr. Gresley

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Pilot, Mr. Parkins.
2 Duke of Hamilton, Mr. J. Lowe
3 Duke of Hamilton, Mr. Parkins
4 Pilot, Mr. J. Gibbons
5 Truth, ditto
6 Caliph, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Princess Royal, Mr. J. Storer
2 Purple Perfection, Mr. J. Parkins
3 Lady Vernon, Mr. C. Forman
4 Maid of Orleans, Mr. Parkins
5 Sarah Ann, ditto
6 Lord Denman, Mr. Lowe

Rose Breeders.

1 Anastasia, Mr. Parkins
2 Catherine, Mr. Lowe
3 Village Maid, Mr. Gibbons
4 Seedling, Mr. Parkins

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

AN HOUR AMONG THE TULIPS AT FELTON MILLS.

BY MR. WM. HARRISON, SECRETARY TO THE FELTON UNION OF FLORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS.

THE gorgeous beauties of the tulip have again vanished from our admiring eyes; and having again had an opportunity of visiting the magnificent and extensive beds of my friend, Mr. Bromfield, at Felton Mills, I hasten to offer the result of my observations to the readers of the *Midland Florist*, trusting that they may be interesting to the younger section of its readers at least. To the *veteran* they may contain little *new*; but as the floricultural arena is annually receiving fresh accessions from the younger portion of the community, and young tulip fanciers are springing up on every side of us, I trust that they will be worthy of the space that they will occupy. When I took out my note book, I intended to confine my comments to a few of the gems of the best bed only; but after proceeding so far, I found so many that had rather disappointed the expectations of their enthusiastic cultivator, and not borne out the characters expected of them, that I was induced to extend my notes to a number of those also. Want of time prevents me from *classing* them, but as they occur in my note book the observations are at your service.

West Thirston, July 8, 1854.

Rising Sun.—A very fine bizarre, fine rich brown feather and slight flame; ground colour very rich, and in every respect perfectly pure.

Walker's Duke of Devonshire.—A fine rich good cupped flower, light feather and very slight flame; but if correct, it is stained in the cup.

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La Vandicken.—A fine middle-row rose, rich feather and slight flame. Quite pure.

Zuill's Charles Dunlop.—A byblœmen, fine light feather and flame, good cup, but the bottom quite blue, and the anthers black.

Lilas Grand Vase.—A large and magnificent rose, with a fine light feather and very little flame. Perfectly pure bottom, and a grand flower.

Violet Cook.—An extra fine flower, beautiful dark rosy purple feather and fine cup; bottom and stamens perfectly pure.

Surpass Catafalque.—Rich yellow ground colour, and a most lovely feather. Fresh imported from Holland.

Violet Cupedon.—A very finely feathered and flamed light byblœmen, good cup and perfectly pure.

Lightbody's Falkirk Hero.—A rich bizarre inside, but very pale without; very delicate feather, and little or no flame; bottom rather stained, and upper half of the stamens also stained. Mr. B. thinks this must have been incorrectly sent to him, it is so different from what we expected.

Rose Tendre.—A pretty light feathered rose, and good cup, but the bottom a little stained.

Reid's William Tell.—A very beautiful byblœmen, quite pure, finely feathered and slightly flamed with dark rich purple, but the petals rather long.

Slater's Curion.—A most lovely flower, with a delicate dark feather and little or no flame. Both bottom and stamens are a rich golden yellow, and it is one of the gems of the best bed, and a most desirable flower.

Hamlet.—A fine flower, with a beautiful cup and heavy flame, but quite like a heavy Polyphemus.

Hero of the Nile.—A most gorgeously feathered rose, with rich scarlet cup, rather long, and a little creamy, but a most beautiful bed flower.

Smith's Duke of Wellington.—A beautifully-cupped but rather tricoloured flower, with a rich dark feather on a strawey ground-colour; cup extra fine, and bottom and stamens quite pure, although the contrary has been stated in the *Midland Florist.*

Zuill's Mrs. Waterston.—A finely-feathered and good-cupped rose, but the bottom quite stained.

Smith's Sir Robt. Peel.—This is said by some to be superior to Pandora, but as grown here, quite blue in the bottom, though the stamens are quite pure.

Dickson's Duke of Devonshire.—A most beautiful black feather here this year, without break or crack of any description. The flower perfect in every respect, and nearly five inches in diameter. This must, after all, be admitted to be the true "*king of all the bizarres.*"

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Lady Wilmot.—A finely-feathered flower, but quite stained, and totally useless.

Superb en Noir.—A very grand byblœmen, finely feathered and a beautiful pencilled flame. Quite pure, and a very superior flower.

Marcellus.—A finely-cupped bizarre, with dark feather and flame. Perfectly pure.

Alexander's Jenny Lind.—A most magnificent feathered rose, different from anything I have ever seen before. The cup perfectly pure and fine, the interior of the cup untouched with spot or streak of any description, and then the fine rich dark scarlet feather is so solidly laid on about half an inch broad, that there seems little more to be desired by the most fastidious critic. Either as a bed flower or for competition, it is unrivalled in its style of marking, and highly desirable. Mr. Bromfield informs me that it breaks out of the "Magnificent" breeders, but breaks rather different in colour from that variety.

Gibbons's Venus.—A pure and fine byblœmen, with rich feather and flame of dark glossy varnished purple. A very desirable variety.

Gibbons's 51.—Similar to the last, but heavier marked.

Headly's Amyntas.—A very grand byblœmen, with a heavy black feather and slight flame; blacker, if blacker can be, than Lawrence's Friend. An extra fine flower.

Lyde's Lord Strathmore.—A splendidly-cupped bizarre, with light feather and little flame. A very fine flower.

Reid's Prince Albert.—A noble byblœmen, with fine feather and little flame. Quite pure and extra fine.

Lightbody's Kosciusko.—This variety seems to possess rather a long narrow petal, with a fine medium feather and slight flame; the flame running a long way down the cup, yet leaving the bottom quite pure. On a second inspection of this flower, on the 3rd of June, I still found its appearance rather too long. It was then in full bloom, showing a rich purple feather and flame, running about three-fourths of the length of the petal.

Reid's John Waterston.—A rosy byblœmen, with a fine feather and flame; bottom pure, but the anthers blue.

Dark's Dangerous.—A rich beautiful bizarre, with fine delicate feather and *no* flame; bottom *very slightly* stained.

Dixon's Democrat.—A very fine byblœmen, with nice feather and slight flame, and in every respect perfectly pure.

Headly's Britannia.—A rich flamed byblœmen, but the bottom quite blue.

Reid's Douglas Jerrold.—A fine feathered and slightly flamed byblœmen, but the bottom very creamy, and not to be bleached out.

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Bowler's Everard.—Very grand indeed; the colour a lighter scarlet than Jenny Lind, upon a rich yellow ground; fine heavy feather, and flaming about two-thirds of the length of the petals, leaving the remainder of the cup and anthers quite pure. The colours much the same as Strong's King, but the cup much larger. Here it is extra fine this year.

Arlette.—Fine cup and pure, but quite an irregular flame this year, and nothing like the "beautiful maid of Falaize," as we saw her for the first time, in Mr. Bromfield's collection, about twelve years ago. *Then* the feather was perfection itself; *now* the colour seems all concentrated into two or three stripes down the middle of the petals. What a pity this lovely gem should be so capricious!

Brown's Magnificent.—A very rich and pure feathered and flamed flower, on a snowy white ground. Colour dark rich purple. Extra fine.

Violet Gargantua.—A noble bybloemen, with a slight feather and large cup; quite pure, but rather flimsy in the petal, and does not stand long.

Gibbons's Lady Vernon.—A rosy light byblœmen, but *stained.*

Musidora.—A very magnificent byblœmen, with fine feather and heavyish flame. Very grand, and quite pure.

Thomas Brown.—A finely-feathered and heavily-flamed bizarre, but exactly like Polyphemus.

Camarine.—A noble byblœmen, with fine feather and beautifully pencilled flame. Quite pure, and very superior.

Alexander's Emperor.—A feathered and flamed bizarre, quite in the style of Polyphemus.

Strong's High Admiral.—A creamy ground and slight flaming. Cup rather stained.

Reid's Mary Ann.—A pure, large, finely-cupped byblœmen, fine feather and slight flame. Perfectly pure.

Saunders's Vivid.—A fine short-cupped flower, slight brown feather and little or no flame. An exceedingly rich yellow ground, and very pure and fine.

Emperor of Scarlets.—A very creamy flower, and apparently worthless.

Jeffrey's Rose Elizabeth.—A most lovely light-feathered rose and a trifle of flame. This is a real gem, raised by the late Mr. Jeffrey, of Rotherhithe. It is said by some to be the same as Goldham's Gem, and is certainly a decided acquisition.

Albion.—A fine short-cupped flower, quite pure, and marking like a light Polyphemus.

Reid's Robert Andrew.—A very pure flower, and lightly marked with dark rich purple. Very fine and rich.

Ellis's Lord Bloomfield.—A very large fine strong flower, slightly feathered and flamed with fine dark purple. Quite pure and exceedingly fine.

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David.—One of the finest of the few real feathered byblœmens in existence. This strain is always grand with Mr. Bromfield, but unfortunately it is very scarce. The cup is fine and perfectly pure, and the feather quite black.

Zuill's Mrs. Zuill.—A feathered and flamed rose when young, but dies off a byblœmen. Bottom not quite pure here, this season.

Gibbons's Joseph Strutt.—The ground colour of this is a strange mixture of yellow and white, and lightly flamed with purple. Bottom only middling.

Addison.—Fine white ground, as usual, and dense black feather. Extra fine.

[To be concluded in our next.]

PINKS.

THESE favourite flowers are improving so rapidly in size, smoothness of petal, and distinctness of colour, that I feel certain many of the new varieties have only to be seen to completely supersede the neat, though "buttonlike" sorts, such as Greensides, Susanna, &c. I have purchased some of these, and growing a number of the Lancashire and Yorkshire varieties, I have been enabled to make a few memoranda, which I forward for insertion in your next number. I have had a most excellent bloom, and as my plan is simple, I may as well describe it. My bed was well dug in the autumn, and enriched with decayed horsedung and burnt turf ashes, and to the latter I attribute in a great measure my fine growth. At the end of August, the bed was planted with good well-rooted plants, watered occasionally, and about the end of September, the surface of the soil was covered with well decayed cucumber bed manure. This remained on all the winter, and when the bed was cleaned in spring, was slightly forked in with a small fork, the prongs being not more than four inches long. When the buds made their appearance, the plants were regularly watered, and at half their size, weak liquid manure was given. The amateur must mind these points:—Rich compost, not too

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light; autumn planting, covering the soil before winter, and regular watering. By these means, he will have large finely-laced blooms, with plenty of increase. I will now tell your readers about some of the sorts I have seen, and what I think of them. I will begin with

Prince of Wales (Bragg).—Really a very fine flower, with stout well-formed petals. It throws up a tall flower-stalk, strong as a carnation. The lacing of the blooms is broad rosy purple. It has the advantage too of blooming evenly without assistance, and has not that confused moplike appearance which very many used to have, but which I believe are now rapidly disappearing from all fine collections, though the next named is one of that sort.

King of Hanover.—A flower of some fifty or more petals. With me, coarse and ugly.

Ruby (Bragg).—A well-named and beautiful flower; heavy red, but good in character, and a fine sort for exhibition. This should be one of a dozen.

Glory.—One of the most chaste flowers I have seen this season. The white is purity itself, the lacing rosy purple, laid on in medium style, very evenly and truly; the petal is smooth, and will be admired by everyone.

Hon. C. Wellesley.—Quite first-rate. Large, of fine form, heavy red, it might readily be taken for a picotee. The first flower was rather coarse, but those succeeding were quite up to the mark.

Blackeyed Susan, with the same treatment as the foregoing, bloomed very unsatisfactorily, the flowers being neither laced nor black and white, but intermediate. The new sorts have put me quite out of conceit with this variety.

Koh i Noor.—A delicate lilac rose lace. The petal is good, though it cannot be classed either as a red or a purple. It will be a telling flower in a stand, where dissimilarity is required. It appears to be an early variety.

Ada.—This is one of Read's, of Clophill, who has introduced some most excellent varieties. It is one of my favourites,—the white is so pure, and the purple lace so beautifully laid on. I am certain every pink grower must be pleased with it.

Annot Lyle.—Rather rough, but laces well. Some of the latter blooms have been smooth, but, as it has come with me this season, certainly not first-rate.

Pilot (Hand).—A finely marking old variety, blooms rather too flat for the present advanced state of the fancy, wanting a few small petals to form a crown. If a "moon" (the dark circle in the centre) is wanted, or admired, it has a "full" one.

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Sappho (Colcutt).—With me, a splendid flower. Dark reddish purple lace, white very pure, a chaste and excellent sort.

Attraction.—This is one of the many raised by that indefatigable florist, Mr. Looker, of Oxford, and though varying in colour, bears a strong family likeness to many flowers originated in that quarter. They lace remarkably well, but have an undesirable "fringiness," with a spade-ace white ground within the lacing. There are some exceptions, which I shall notice as I proceed. This is a heavy purple, approximating to the shade called Tyrian; the petals in the centre are rather strap-shaped, but it will, with good growth and a little dressing, make a nice flower.

Climax (Looker).—Heavy red. A full, capitally-laced flower, very attractive on the bed.

Diadem.—A marone-laced flower, blooms flat, without dressing. Distinct, pure, and good.

Hon. Mrs. Herbert (Keynes).—Not so large as some, but a flower of great refinement. The white is beautifully pure, and contrasts capitally with its even, very dark lace. It crowns well, blooms smoothly, and ought to be grown by every amateur.

Earl of Carlisle.—Of medium size, good form, dark red lace. There is something about this flower that I am not partial to, though it comes tolerably well, and is neat; certainly it is not particularly showy.

Bishop of Oxford.—Heavy purple. I have had it this season in two characters, heavy and medium laced, in both very attractive. The petal is good, and it appears steady in character.

Laura (Willmer) has now been "out" some years, but still takes a prominent position, and is really a very beautiful sort. Heavy rosy purple lace, smooth petal, good form, and constant. This must be one of a collection, however select.

Queen Victoria (Bunkell).—A rich, finely-marked, dark flower, but serrated, and centre petals strap-shaped. It must, in spite of its "regular conduct," be "moved on."

Brilliant.—A beautifully coloured flower,—cherry red edge, well laid on,—but, unfortunately, rough.

Edgar (Turner).—Dark red. A sweet variety. White very pure, lacing medium, and nicely done. This sort I much like.

Othello.—Flowers in a pretty form, dark red, very smooth, with small petals to form a crown. Does not require the tweezers much, and is very constant.

Pandora (Looker).—A useful flower, heavy red. Of this I have had some very fine blooms.

Vesta (Looker).—A very fine shade of purple, distinct. The petals are rather flimsy, and curl at the margin; otherwise it is an attractive variety, from its striking colour.

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Sarah (Turner).—A remarkably strong-growing, large-flowering variety; laces remarkably well. The second blooms, this season, were unexceptionable. Red lace.

Reliance (Looker).—Rich deep purple, laces well. Were the petals rather broader, this would be a splendid flower.

Picta (Looker).—Red lace, rather thin, and petals incurve too much. It is very pure, and laces well.

Flora (Looker).—A very pretty nicely-formed red lace; crowns well, and has pleased most people who have seen it.

Lord Norreys must close my remarks for the present. Tall-growing, it laces finely with dark purplish crimson. When strongly grown, it is apt to be coarse, but the second blooms, or when not overgrown, are generally splendid.

AN OLD PINK GROWER.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE METHOD OF GROWING TULIPS.

THE fact that several valuable beds of tulips, in the midland and southern counties, have been entirely lost, either, it is presumed, from an improper mode of cultivation or an unsuitable situation, has led me to make the following remarks on the subject, inasmuch as a similar circumstance has occurred in this neighbourhood, the cause of which is well known to the owner of them, and to others who have a knowledge of the treatment they have received. The owner in question allowed his roots to remain in the ground, last year, till the middle of August, with the exception of three, which, being new and more valuable than the rest, were taken up at the beginning of July. They were dried in the usual manner, in boxes, and were all planted again, in the middle of December. The result is, that not one-fourth of them have made their appearance above ground this spring, and those which have are no stronger than small offsets; but the three roots which were taken up in July are both healthy and strong, and have each borne a fine bloom. This clearly proves that allowing tulip bulbs to remain in the ground too long

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after blooming, is destruction to them; and I know that this is too often done by many growers of this noble flower.

I will now state as briefly as possible the method of cultivation I adopt in growing tulips; for, in my humble opinion, the instructions given in most of our leading floricultural works are by no means calculated to grow this flower to perfection; and if any of your friends who have suffered, should detect anything in it which will lead to the solution of the difficulty in which they are involved, it will give me the greatest pleasure. Taking up the bulbs, I fear, is done too late by many. As soon as the growth has ceased, which is indicated by the flower stalk assuming a purplish hue, no time should be lost in performing this important operation. The real object in taking up tulip roots is to keep them in what is termed a clean state; and it is my opinion, that as soon as the growth has ceased, the bloom for the succeeding year is formed, *in embryo*, in the bulb, *perfect*, provided the plant has received no checks during its growth. It will be evident then, that by allowing it to remain in the ground, the moisture it will absorb from the soil, will keep the bulb in a wet or unripe state, when it should be at rest, and thereby it will cause the colouring of the bloom to be imperfect, and have a tendency to weaken it. The point to be attained is, to bring this bloom to its full growth, without injury; and the first thing towards this is to take the roots up in time. The next thing is to keep them thoroughly at rest till planting time, and that is impossible where the slightest dampness can act on them. To do it properly, they should be stored in a room where a fire is constantly kept. The best place I have yet tried is a room with a constant fire, where they are suspended from the top, in crape or muslin bags, about two yards from the fireplace. If kept in this manner, they will not show any indications of growth till the latter end of November, and that will be quite early enough to plant them; but in exposed

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situations, I would recommend planting in the middle of December; as, when planted so late, they do not make their appearance in spring till the middle of March, and thus escape the severe frost which generally occurs at the beginning of that month and the end of February, and which I have no doubt is the cause of many a collection being destroyed, as no ordinary protection is sufficient to preserve them from its effects. It will be seen that by this treatment,—the roots only just starting into growth when planted, and when they appear in spring, the dangers to be apprehended from severe frost in a great measure past,—they enjoy an uninterrupted growth from planting to blooming, with a little protection; and where this is the case, we may confidently expect the bloom to be fine. Though they are so much later in making their appearance, there is not a day difference in the bloom of these and early-planted ones; and the rapidity and vigour of the growth, and the larger size of the blooms, will at once convince the most prejudiced mind that this method is more suited to the constitution of the tulip than the system of late lifting and early planting. Tulips will grow and bloom well in almost any kind of soil, provided there be no manure with it. It is the opinion of many that they require frequent change of soil, and they put themselves to great trouble and expense in procuring fresh soil, which is, I believe, in a great measure unnecessary. I know an instance where tulips have been grown in the same bed and the same soil for ten years, and the bloom has been as fine this year as when they were first planted in it. The only addition that has been made, is a slight sprinkling of old carnation soil some years, but not even that every year. I have grown them for five years in the same manner, with similar results. I may add, that the soil of these beds is yellow sandy loam, with a gravelly subsoil, and they are naturally well drained. This is the system I have practised for the last five years with the most perfect success; and if any of

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your readers will only follow these directions, I dare venture to affirm, they will find no difficulty in growing this, the noblest of Flora's gems; and when they can enjoy the possession of a bed of tulips in full bloom, and which have experienced no interruptions in their growth, a great part of them "large enough to hold a pint of bran," as an old florist in this town used to say, and the majority of them perfectly marked, it will, I am sure, leave them no room for anything but delight, as a more magnificent exhibition of grandeur and beauty cannot be displayed by any other flower.

W. B.

Halifax, June 16th, 1854.

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TULIP BULB.

As a constant reader of your little work, from its commencement, perhaps I may be allowed a line or two on the two or three papers that have appeared, on the destruction of tulips.

It is now about thirty years since I began the cultivation of the tulip, and have sometimes grown them under considerable disadvantages, which perhaps has been the means of enabling me to gain more insight into the process than I should otherwise have done.

It has always been a rule with me to strip off the outer dried skin of the bulb, and I thought every tulip grower did the same; for it becomes the receptacle of worms and insects, and when the rotting process begins, has a tendency to impart it to the bulb; and as it cannot add to the nourishment, its protection must be formed in another way.

The tulip makes a new bulb every year; as soon as the growth begins, the different skins supply the nutriment, towards perfecting the stem and bloom, and are absorbed in that process; and finally another

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outward skin is perfected, surrounding the new bulb. The stem, which, when planted, was coming forth from the centre, is now at the side. I am certainly of opinion that the old skin has a tendency to engender the rot, but I should presume not to the extent that your correspondents inform us.

I think that with care the rotting of bulbs to any large extent may be prevented. Before planting, for a few weeks, the bed should be protected from rain, so as to be rather dry at planting time, and kept so for a week or so after. The bulb, while out of the ground, is kept quite dry, and the sudden transition from a dry box or bag, to a bed saturated with wet, must in some cases engender rot.

The tulip bed should in all cases be raised ten or twelve inches above the level of the garden; and before the earth is put in, a drain, a foot deep and six inches wide, should be dug the whole length, and filled loosely with brickbats and stones, and covered with sods, slates, or tiles. Over the whole of the bed should be three or four inches of rotten dung, then the bed filled up, and remain some time to settle down.

The holes for planting should be made with a dibble, of any length, but five or six inches at the bottom should be reduced to about three-fourths of an inch, whilst the upper part should be two inches or two inches and a half, leaving a beveled shoulder between the two parts. The beveled shoulder makes a bed for the bulb, and takes off the excess of rain down the hole formed by the lower part of the dibble. The roots also strike down this hole, and thus get at the provision made for them at the bottom, and at blooming time, are beyond the effect of the heat of the sun's rays; the stems stand erect, and the blooms keep much longer in perfection. The process of protecting the bulb is by covering it with sweet dry sand. With these precautions, I think the bulb will be safe. In no case should dung be near the bulbs. I knew a large cultivator, about twenty-five years

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since, who lost nearly all his bulbs, through mixing a considerable quantity of dung with the mould of his bed.

There are circumstances occur by which a great many bulbs are lost. I once made up a bed in a garden that had not been cultivated for two years, only by children digging and raking at their play hours, and out of a thousand bulbs, I lost nearly half, and afterwards found that the garden had been a rendezvous for cats, and the soil was impregnated with their excrement, which is certain destruction.

I remember, when a youth, reading a French author on natural history, and he related, that while travelling in Holland, he visited a tulip bed, where he saw several bees enter the earth, near the stems, and after remaining some time, make their appearance again, and fly off. He was aware there was a bee that deposited its eggs in the tulip bulb, and in order to come to a certainty on the subject, he offered to purchase some of the bulbs, but more was wanted for them than he felt inclined to give. In a month or so, he visited the bed again, to ask permission to examine the bulbs, when he was told that he might have them, as those that were perforated were useless, and would rot, if planted. He accepted some, and in time each bulb produced a grub, which came to a bee. After I became a cultivator of the tulip, I often found perforated bulbs, which always rotted after planting. One season (it had been very hot), on stripping the bulbs, previous to planting, I found this had gone to a considerable extent. At once the naturalist's bee came across my mind. The bulbs were planted, but all rotted. The next year, I thought I would investigate the subject, but it was a damp cold season, and no intruder in the shape of a bee made its appearance. I was disappointed. The next was a fine season, and one day, in the height of the bloom, I was sitting in my tulip bed, in the afternoon, the glass door being open, when I heard the buz of a bee. My curiosity was

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excited, and I watched the little gentleman. It was not the working bee of the cottage hive, but a small short-bodied brown variety of the humble bee species. It appeared not to notice the blooms, but flew about among the stems, and so great was my wish to see the result, that I did not disturb it. At last it disappeared in the ground, by one of the stems. I cannot say how long it was under ground, but it remained for some time. I waited its reappearance, with a stick in my hand, to destroy it, but it was too quick for me, and got safely away. I had the bed carefully watched, a great many bees were killed, and not much damage done that year, owing to the vigilance kept up. The bulb was put away in a bag, and planted at the proper time, but rotted. Some years after, I saw a large number of these bees, between the bricks of an old outhouse, in a farm yard. All the information I could get from the parties to whom the place belonged, was that they had been there some years, and they did not think they made a comb, to deposit either eggs or honey. Since I have resided in Manchester, in two warm seasons, I have seen the same species of bee, and one year, I killed six of them round the bed.

DAHL.

Manchester, July, 1854.

NEW PLANTS.

AMONGST new things worthy of note, exhibited at Chiswick, on the 8th of July, was a *Myrtle,* with very close-set foliage. *Escholtzia tenuifolia,* will prove a very pretty border flower. The blossoms are not so large as E. Californica, but they are a most brilliant yellow, and produced in great profusion. It was much admired. A species of *Thunbergia,* a

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stove or warm greenhouse climbing plant, a very splendid thing, a beautiful azure blue, with straw-coloured throat, and flowers much larger than T. alata. *Lomasia ferruginea*, a fine new evergreen, with handsome pinnate foliage. A great acquisition.

MR. HUNT'S SWEETWILLIAMS.—We are always glad to hear of or see improvements made in any particular class of flowers. It takes a series of years, no doubt, to attain a given standard of perfection, but what will not perseverance do, when rightly directed? Last season, we were favoured with a sight of some specimens: this season, Mr. Hunt has sent us a considerable number, and we have no doubt, from their extreme beauty, that they will be highly appreciated. Truly, the sweetwilliam, like the hollyhock, is an old-fashioned cottager's flower, and we have some sunny reminiscences of their beauty, in years long past,—the former rich in colour, but ragged as colts—the latter stately and gaudy, but also immeasurably behind the beautiful varieties we now possess. But though old-fashioned, thanks to the fostering care of the enthusiastic florist, some of them have become the greatest ornaments of the flower garden. Mr. Hunt's sweet-williams are round, smooth on the edge, close in the truss, distinct in colour; in fact, beautiful in the extreme.

VERBENAS.—At the South London floricultural show, a very pretty brilliant scarlet, called *Andover*, was exhibited by Mr. Smith, Tollington-road Nursery. *Evening Star* was shown by Mr. Turner. Pale pink, with a distinct white centre. Novel.

DELPHINIUMS.—This is a favourite family of ours, to which we are devoting considerable attention. Our *D. pulchrum*, which was so highly spoken of, last season, by the floral editors of the metropolis, has this year been in very fine character. Lavender

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blue, with a pink spot on the points of the petals. We have another beautiful thing, which we have called *Belladonna*. It is a rich mazarine blue, white centre, large flowers, with broad well-formed petals. Perfectly distinct, and will make a good companion to D. magnifica.

PHLOXES.—Certainly one of the most attractive whites has been *Miss Graham*, a Scotch flower, we believe, the blooms individually as flat and round as a shilling, large truss, and broad green shining foliage. *Abdel Meschid Khan* has also been first-rate. Rich pink, with a dark centre; the truss is pyramidal, large, and very attractive. *Hebe* is also of splendid form and fine habit; white, with pink centre, foliage broad and glossy.

SALT'S CRIMSON PERFECTION RHUBARB has been exhibited at Derby, Nottingham, and other places, where it has received certificates for its excellent qualities. Combining, as it does, earliness, colour, and flavour in a pre-eminent degree, it certainly is a very excellent variety.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

DIANTHUS.—W. C.—Yours is only a common form of the Chinese or Indian pink.

PINKS.—I. A.—*King Richard*, a very nice variety, with smooth well-formed petals, blooming in good form; white good, with the red lace evenly and well laid on. We consider it very good. We forwarded the bloom as desired. Thanks.

I. L.—*Elizabeth Gair*, red lace, fine smooth petals, white good, the edging even, and of good quality. Had there been any petals extracted?

W. S.—Too much serrated. Flowers of this character would not now be tolerated in choice collections. Its colours, however, are brilliant and distinct.

I. P., *Oxford*.—Your pink is smooth and well laced. There is also sufficient petal in it. It will take a forward position among show varieties.

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SWEETWILLIAMS.—The pips sent are very beautiful and quite first-rate in character. They have only to be seen to be appreciated.

S. R.—A semidouble variety of sweetwilliam. It will make a showy herbaceous perennial.

PANSIES.—R. O. O.—No. 10, a rich dark belted yellow ground variety, apparently a seedling from Owen Glendower. The eye bold. A fine flower. No. 1, rich orange ground, with puce top petals and belt, and the eye feathered. A distinct variety. Both are promising seedlings.

R. O.—A promising lot of seedlings, but came much withered. Several bear a strong family likeness to Owen Glendower.

J. C. C.—*Triumph*, a very nicely-formed flower, rather small as sent, still we think it very promising. As soon as you have a good flower, we shall like to see it again.

FUCHSIAS.—R. W.—The seedlings sent have nothing particular to recommend them. No. 4 is the best, but it is only second-rate. No. 2 is good in colour, but is beaten by Duchess of Lancaster. We are sorry not to be able to give a more favourable opinion, as our correspondent appears most anxious in his endeavours.

POTENTILLA VERSICOLOR.—P. I.—Though the specimens sent came flat between the pasteboard, the colour was run, and consequently we can hardly give a fair opinion. They appear to be crimson, shaded towards the centre with orange. Apparently a showy perennial.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

NATIONAL FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY.

MAY 25.—G. W. Hoyle, Esq., in the chair. First class certificate to G. W. Hoyle, Esq., for Pelargonium Wonderful; this is a large flower of the finest form, with smooth, stout petals. The top petals are dark marone, shaded off to the margin with orange and rose. The lower ones are deep pink, centre large, white. It is a very free bloomer. The same raiser also obtained a certificate of merit for Serena, a flower of great substance; black top petals, margined with rose; lower petals lilac rose, white centre,

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a very smooth flower: and a label of commendation for Lord Raglan, similar in colour to Prince of Orange, but longer, full sized truss, and free, good habit. A certificate of merit was awarded to Pelargonium Grand Sultan (Turner), black top petals, under ones deep crimson, strongly marked, a striking flower. A label of commendation was awarded to Mr. Cole, for his calceolaria, Dazzle, which promises to become a favourite.

JUNE 15.—E. Beck, Esq., in the chair. Mr. Smith, of Tollington Nursery, sent Verbena Boule de Feu, a brilliant scarlet, with yellow eye, and truss of fine form; awarded a first-class certificate. Violacea, a deep violet, with a pure white eye, good truss and form. Also, Fancy Pelargonium Elect, an improvement on Hero of Surrey; and possessing a good habit. Mrs. S. Latham, of Dover, sent a bedding geranium, Carminia, of the Diadematum class, an improvement on the Sidonias, and which was awarded a certificate of merit. Messrs. Veitch, of Chelsea, contributed a bedding geranium, Helena superba; an oak-leaved variety, a blush white, with a light spot, of fine habit, and very free. Mr. Cole, St. Albans, exhibited Calceolaria Eclipse; a fine reddish crimson, of fine form, and good habit; a good acquisition to the bedding class. This was awarded a first-class certificate. Orion, a light brown of good habit, free, but long. Prince of Orange, orange yellow, of good habit, flower long. Mr. Dobson, of Isleworth, sent Pelargonium Mr. White (white), a carmine rose, with crimson marone spot, smooth, with a good under petal; Gem of the West (Fuller), a fine silvery white, with a pure claret spot, of good form and habit; awarded a certificate of merit. E. Beck, Esq., sent Fidelio (Beck), a heavy rose, with marone spots, and bright throat, under petals slightly spotted. Silenus (Beck), an orange scarlet, with brownish crimson spot, under petal clouded with the same colour; this was awarded a certificate of merit. Conqueror (Beck), a good crimson scarlet, with rich marone spot, good

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habit; received a first-class certificate. Laura (Beck), a good rose, with good spot, white throat, and moderate form. Mr. C. Turner exhibited a fancy pelargonium, Ariel (Cook), good, but must be seen again, not being sufficiently in bloom. Calceolarias, cut flowers, from Mr. Stone, of Hull; Aurora, Truth, and Gem were among the best; but being cut, the judges could not make an award; they are of fine form. E. Foster, Esq., of Clewer Manor, sent Pelargonium Phaeton; a rich orange scarlet, stout, smooth, and of good form, a free bloomer; this was awarded a first-class certificate. Mr. C. Turner, of Slough, sent Pelargonium Pandora, with dark marone top petals, edged with crimson, crimson bottom petals, very free; awarded a certificate of merit. Also, Fancy Pelargonium Ne plus ultra (Turner), dark purple marone, edged with white, form good; awarded a first-class certificate. King of Crimsons (Turner), bright crimson, very showy, and possessing a free, good habit; awarded a certificate of merit.

WATERER ON AMERICAN PLANTS.

PEAT, it must be remembered, is composed of certain vegetable substances which have undergone a long and slow process of decay. These substances are chiefly the softer portions of trees, or leaves, nuts, tender twigs or branches, and other *debris* generally abounding in the forests. When it is desired, therefore, to provide a good substitute for peat, nothing will be found more suitable than "leaf mould," or rotten leaves, mixed with a portion of light sandy soil. Another mode of meeting the want of good bog, is to prepare a compost in the following manner:—Collect several loads of what is called the top or service spit of any plantation, wood, or even grass field; and the more this surface is impregnated with decayed vegetable particles the better. The thickness

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of the spit will depend of course on circumstances, being more or less, according to its composition. When a supply has been obtained, it should be thrown together; then carefully and freely mixed with leaf mould, or old and well-rotted dung from a melon frame. In this operation, the turfy parts should not be chopped fine, but preserved as rough and large as is compatible with the mixture of the whole mass. When the plants are to be planted in beds, or compartments of more irregular outline, the average depth may be stated at about twenty inches. To this depth the soil should be taken out, and an equivalent portion of the compost already described placed in its stead. At the time of planting, should the weather be very dry, nothing is of greater importance than a copious supply of water. This injunction is the most urgent during the first season; for after they are fairly established, there is, comparatively speaking, but little to be apprehended. In very dry seasons, however, every precaution should be observed to prevent the balls of earth round the roots from becoming too dry—an evil to which they are liable, in elevated positions.

We may just state, in conclusion, that we merely offer these directions respecting soil for the benefit of those who may have ready access to a plentiful supply of leaf-mould and other ingredients of a rich compost; but we beg to repeat that American plants will grow in any ordinary garden soil, and therefore all who are desirous of having a display of their beautiful flowers, need never be deterred from attempting to grow them, from a fear of failure and disappointment.

There is only one point which we think it worth while to notice here—that is, the importance of plucking off the decayed blooms, after the plants have done flowering, as this operation is beneficial to their growth, and induces a greater abundance of flower-buds for the following season.

The following are a selection of the newest and best hardy rhododendrons, which begin to bloom

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generally about the first week in June, and are, therefore, secure from injury by frost.

Atrosanguineum.—Dark crimson. A very fine variety.
Attraction.—Fine rosy crimson. Excellent habit.
Beauty of Bury Hill.—Bright crimson. Fine large truss of flowers.
Blandyanum.—Rosy crimson, with black spots. Very large truss, and robust plant.
Blatteum.—Purple, tinged with crimson. Immense truss.
Coccineum Mirabile.—Intense glowing crimson. Very fine.
Delicatissimum.—Light pink, bright carmine spots.
Etandard de Flandre.—Purple and black spots.
Floribundum Coccineum.—Very bright crimson, intensely spotted.
John Waterer.—An intense glowing carmine. Flowers very large and magnificent. It does not bloom till about the 18th of June.
Lady Eleanor Cathcart.—Transparent vermillion rose, with dark crimson spots. Very fine.
Leopardi.—Rosy purple. The centre blossoms are covered with crimson spots, and truss very large. Superb.
Maculatum Nigrum.—Dark purple, intensely spotted.
Mortonianum.—Rosy crimson, white throat, and black spots. Fine.
Mrs. John Waterer.—Clear bright rosy crimson. Immense truss. Superb.
Nobleanum Bicolor.—Fine light rose, with distinct white spot. Fine.
Rhodoleucops.—Beautiful rose, with a distinct white blotch.
Roseum Superbum.—Rosy pink, bright carmine spots. One of the best,
Black Prince.—Nearly black. Distinct and very fine.
Towardianum.—Rosy lilac. Immense truss, fine form.
Unicum.—Bright rose, with fine crimson marking.
Vandycke.—Large and rich crimson flowers of first-rate excellence.
Lady Wenlock.—Bright crimson, nicely spotted. The truss is *cone-shaped.* Fine.
Omphale.—Rosy crimson, strongly marked with *black* spots.

The following sorts, which are seedlings raised from the noble species R. catawbiense, are recommended for general purposes, near walks in woods, or among shrubs of larger growth, on sloping banks near carriage drives, &c.

Catawbiense Bicolor.—Rose, with white throat
Album Elegans.—Very fine pure white. Large blossoms and truss.

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Delicatissimum.—White, beautifully tinged with pink. First-rate.
Everestianum.—Lilac and rose, spotted with brown. Immense truss and abundant bloomer.
Maculosum.—Pearly white, with orange centre.
Hyacinthiflorum.—Rosy purple. Very double.
Nivaticum.—Clear white, and distinct yellow eye.
Pictum.—White, with a shining orange blotch.
Melanthaumum.—Very dark purple, tinged with red.
Lindsayanum.—Fine rosy crimson, with black spots.
Fastuosum Pleno.—Semidouble rich purple.
Enchantress.—Fine white, with yellow eyes.

Floricultural Cabinet.

On the 25th of May, we acted as censor, at Derby arboretum, and a most excellent exhibition there was. Independent of the tulips, there was a splendid collection of plants, one marquee being entirely filled with beautiful things from the Duke of Devonshire's, whilst Messrs. Jackson, Dryden, and Bailey brought fine specimens from the stoves of Lord Scarsdale, I. Evans, Esq., and the Misses Strutt respectively; in fact, we do not recollect a more beautiful and satisfactory exhibition. The most noticeable tulips were, Vivid, a fine feathered bizarre, good also as a flame, shown by Mr. Allestree. Mr. Foreman's Chellaston Beauty was as excellent a feathered byblœmen as we often see. Gem was also distinct and good, and Mr. Spencer, of Thulston, exhibited, as he always does, Groom's Victoria in first-rate style. In flamed byblœmens, Sarah Ann, and Geo. Glenny, were both good. The others being well-known varieties, as will be seen in the report of the exhibition, they need no further comment here.

THE PRUNING OF ROSE TREES.—This operation is very simple. Established trees have to be thinned out, to keep the head open well to the light and air. All the small branches, and such as cross each other, must be removed, and the new shoots, which are of considerable length sometimes, should be shortened back to one, two, or three eyes, according to where

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the buds are set. The one left just below the cut should point outwards, as it greatly affects the beauty of the head when in flower. When we receive roses first, they have generally only one branch from the eye, or two branches from two separate eyes; our business, then, is to cut back to two, or at most three eyes: this may give three branches of young wood; each of these branches will have to be cut back to three eyes, and form a head, after which every shoot may be cut back to the lowest eye or bud that points the way we want the shoot.—*Glenny's Gardening for the Million.*

REVIEWS.

The Scottish Gardener

Opens with Garden Operations for the month; the writer recommends charred weeds, burnt soil, &c., as a preventive to club in cabbages, and we make no doubt that it is highly beneficial, especially on strong loams. There are also other good articles on Ventilation, Florists' Flowers, Liquid Manure, Features in Scottish Scenery, Notes on Belfast Botanic Garden, and a few country seats in the counties Down and Antrim, &c. We consider this a most excellent garden periodical.

The Florist, Fruitist, and Garden Miscellany,

Is embellished with a fine plate of Mr. Lawrences's seedling tulip, *John Haywood,* which we have previously alluded to in our notice of the Regent's Park. It certainly is a good representation of the flower, as far as form and marking go, but we think the colours rather too high. It appears that it was originated from seed procured from Polyphemus, crossed with Pompe Funebre. The stock is not large, being six breeders and four rectified flowers. The principal

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articles are, a continuation of the papers on Hardy Conifers; Cryptomeria Japonica, being the one now described and illustrated. The Scottish Pansy Society's exhibition is also detailed, mention being made of two seedlings, one sent by Messrs. Dickson and Co., and named Omar Pasha, superior in every respect to Magnificent; the other was named Shylock, an excellent dark self, from Messrs. Downie & Laird. There is also a design for a flower garden, with hints on laying out parterres—a short notice on the harmonious distribution of colours in stands or collections of dahlias—National Tulip Exhibition, Regent's Park—Cheltenham Exhibition, &c.

The Gardener's Record

Has a seasonable article on piping pinks; also one on the national tulip show, in which the writer takes some strong exceptions against the management and the flowers. Amongst other things, he states that "in no bed around the metropolis would seven hundred roots of one flower (variety) be grown in rows, to enable the possessor to cut six in the season for exhibition." If the writer had said to cut one, instead of six, he would have been nearer the mark. We agree with the writer that a flamed flower is no less a flame because it has no feather, and we would most certainly have a class for that peculiar style of marking alone. Mr. Slater continues his descriptive list of tulips, and from the bad points indicated in many varieties, it is evident that we shall have a sweeping reform in this class of flowers. He recommends, however, Pyramid of Egypt (rosy byblœmen), Milner's Rebecca (byb.), and some few others; whilst Duke of Sussex (biz.), Edith Plantagenet (byb), Edgar (byb.), Jupiter (rose), Maria Antoinette (byb.), Monarch (biz.), Queen Adelaide (byb.), Village Queen (rose), are all more or less stained, and therefore comparatively worthless. The other papers are principally reports of floral and horticultural exhibitions.

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QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Are five stamens to a tulip a disqualification? If a stand of tulips have a flower in it with only five stamens, is that a disqualification for the whole stand? A SUBSCRIBER, *York*.

To the first query we say, *undoubtedly*, it wanting one of its essential organs. To the second, we reply, that if such a defect disqualify an individual flower, that flower, if shown in a stand, necesssarily imparts its detracting influence to the whole. The stand of Mr. G. Hudston, of Kingston, was disqualified at the national tulip show, at Derby, in consequence of one flower having only five stamens.

I have been experimenting, this season, in hybridizing tulips, to stand for seeding, and have succeeded better than I expected, considering my situation. The following are the varieties selected for operation, and which I have now standing, each with a fine pod of seed:—

San Joe,	crossed with	Charles X.
Charles X.,	,,	San Joe
Juliet,	,,	Mrs. Dixon
Duke of Bordeaux	,,	Queen Charlotte
Kosciusko,	,,	Princess Royal
Princess Royal,	,,	Kosciusko
Princess Royal,	,,	Catherina, or Queen of the North
Bion,	,,	Juliet

I have also hybridized three fine feathered bizarres, something like Trafalgar in colour, but in every respect perfectly pure bottom and stamens, and the yellow first-rate. These I have crossed with Polyphemus. I have also a fine pod of Anastasia, Sir Henry Pottinger, and Lady Jane Grey. These have all succeeded, and, strange as it may appear, they are all that I operated on. The following is the plan I adopted:—As soon as I had operated on them I stayed them with small sticks and leaden wire, and shaded them with glass, whitewashed on the under side. When the flowers began to fall, I cut about half the foliage from each plant, and have cut away an inch occasionally, till now (July 4) it is cut almost close to the stem. My idea is that it throws what should nourish the foliage into the pod; and it would appear so, for they stand on my bed like so many drumsticks, all in perfect health. As it is almost impossible for me to succeed in propagating from all these varieties, your opinion as to which are best deserving of my attention, will greatly oblige. J. B. S.

We would advise our correspondent to endeavour to grow the whole of his tulip seed, for we really cannot say which we should be inclined to leave out. If he have more seed than

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he require, no doubt he may dispose of it in packets, among his brother florists.

In lifting my tulips, I have found three different bulbs formed on the stem, on the surface of the ground. As I am only a young beginner (this being but my second year), would you be so kind as to inform me whether these bulbs will turn out to be flowering bulbs? M. S.

It will often occur that a bulb, or bulbs, will form in the axil of the foliage, just above ground. By taking care of them, they will flower in due time.

Potato Disease.—Rev. I. M.—It is, we are sorry to say, very prevalent in the small gardens. We saw a patch of Ash-leaved kidneys got up the other day, in which were several wholly rotten, and a great number partially so. On the land you name, you may still sow Six-week turnips, or the Green Barrel. As for the best greens, you may get in savoys, curled broccoli, Brussells sprouts, &c., though they would have been better planted earlier. The improved sorts of cabbage are not so apt to run to seed as the older varieties. We are very fond of Waite's King, which some say is similar to the Enfield Market. You may sow the seed now.

Pansies.—J. M.—Some of the best we have seen amongst the new ones are, *Earl Mansfield*, a noble purple-belted flower.

Great Britain.—Yellow ground, splendid eye, heavy belt.

Lord Palmerston.—Bold eye, orange ground, very fine.

Marion.—Purple belt, dense eye, very rich.

Crimson Perfection.—A splendid colour and good form; rather weak in the eye.

Lord Raglan.—Large purple marone, on a yellow ground; fine eye; side petals and the lower one edged with a bright and distinct thread of gold.

Royal Albert.—Plum self, shaded rosy crimson at the edge of the petals. Novel and very fine.

Duke of Newcastle.—Upper petals violet. A yellow ground flower, very good and distinct.

Royal White.—A finely-formed self. J. M. may safely add these to his collection. They are distinct and good.

Profitable Plums.—J. K.—The old Orleans takes a great deal of beating. We are very fond of Denyer's Victoria, which, with us, is a certain cropper. We have several new plums bearing this season, of which we hope soon to give some information.

Liquid Manure.—Verax.—By no means "unadulterated," as you call it. In that state, we fear it would be certain death. Say two parts water to one of liquid. Of course this must vary in strength, but it is always best to err on the right side, and it had better be too weak than too strong.

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COW FOR CULTIVATING AN ORCHARD.—A COTTAGER.—It is feasible. You say that your trees are planted twenty yards between the rows: that will give ample room for crops of all sorts. You might yoke your cow to a light plough, and turn the soil, certainly, but we should very much prefer turning it over with a steel digging fork. However, we have seen the plan in practice, many years ago. An old man, who had the gardens attached to the Grove, in the Isle of Wight, used to plough his land with an Alderney cow, which also supplied the family with milk. The land was light, and as he was short of help, he thus managed to work it very well.

GOOSEBERRIES FOR AN ORCHARD CULTIVATED WITH THE SPADE.—R. S. T.—There are now many varieties. A favourite sort here for the purpose is the Warrington Red. It bears abundantly, is rough and a good colour, and is not so liable as some varieties to suffer from carriage, when ripe. Our correspondent may also try Lancashire Lad, a rough handsome berry, and a great bearer; likewise Crown Bob and Companion. These may be got in tolerable quantity. Companion and London are more scarce, but fine. We would recommend some Rumbullions to be planted, for though not so large, they bear amazingly, and bring a better price for preserving. As for white and yellow berries, we do not admire them for market purposes. If you want a few for fine flavour and appearance, there is Yellow Champaign, Pitmanston Greengage, China Orange, &c.

PINKS.—W. R.—We have not seen Colchester Cardinal, or Great Criterion, but learn that they are very good. As for your seedlings, prick them out where they are to stand to bloom, in August. We have a very great quantity (2000), which have been pricked out about an inch and a half asunder, and which we shall finally plant out about that time.

TULIPS.—W. S.—Yes, Platoff and Charles X. are considered alike. At all events, too much so; though we believe some florists hold a contrary opinion. We would not advise you to grow flowers about which there is any doubt as to their purity, though, some, according to the soil and other circumstances, will vary in this particular. Take Lord Lilford for instance.

NATIONAL CARNATION AND PICOTEE SHOW, DERBY.—W. P.—If you wish to improve in knowledge as to the properties of these beautiful flowers, or to be able to identify the numerous varieties, or to see the novelties brought forward, and to note the progressive improvement made, by all means come. You and your friends will miss a great treat, if you do not. We anticipate a first-rate exhibition, and this is an opportunity which you and others similarly placed, ought not to let slip.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

TULIP SHOW.

At the House of Mr. Wm. Emony, Red Gate, near Longton, May 13.

1st Pan. Charles X., San Joe, Imperial, Czarinne, Comte, and Aglaia, A. Shaw. 2nd. Charles X., Devonshire, Friendship, Malibran, Comte, Camillus, T. Cooper. 3rd. Nonpareil, San Joe, Winner, European, Comte, Prince William, E. Poulson. 4th. Dentonia, Albion, Bordeaux, Siam, Thunderbolt, Cerise, De Maroc, T. Hollins. 5th. Sunbeam, Archduke Charles, unknown, Tout, Anastasia, Triomphe Royale, S. Mountford.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., A. Shaw
2 Magnum Bonum, ditto
3 Charles X., ditto
4 Nonpareil, E. Poulson
5 Dentonia, A. Shaw
6 Villa Flora, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Devonshire, T. Cooper
2 Captain White, A. Shaw
3 San Joe, E. Poulson
4 Catafalque, ditto
5 Sunbeam, S. Mountford
6 Villa Flora, T. Hollins

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Imperial, A. Shaw
2 Friendship, T. Cooper
3 Gibbons, E. Poulson
4 Albert, ditto
5 Unknown, ditto
6 Ditto, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Violet Imperial, A. Shaw
2 Czarinne, ditto
3 Mallibran, ditto
4 Miss Avery, T. Hollins
5 Violet Brun, A. Shaw
6 Addison, ditto

Feathered Roses.

1 Comte, A. Shaw
2 Heroine, ditto
3 Comte, T. Cooper
4 Unknown, E. Poulson
5 Triomphe Royale, A. Shaw
6 Gibbons, E. Poulson

Flamed Roses.

1 Prince William, E. Poulson
2 Aglaia, A. Shaw
3 Bacchus, ditto
4 Gibbons, ditto
5 Emily, E. Poulson
6 Gibbons's Rose, ditto

ECCLES TULIP SHOW.

At the Dyers' Arms, May the 19th.

Maiden Prizes.—1. Heroine and Unique, T. Thomson. 2. Catafalque and Unique, T. Wright. 2. Duc de Savoy and Trafalgar, G. Gregory.

Premier Prizes.—1. Queen Charlotte and Lady Crewe, C. Wyche. 2. Sovereign and Alexander Magnus. M. Fogg.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Sovereign, C. Wyche
2 Trafalgar, T. Ackerley
3 Unknown, C. Wyche
4 Crown Prince, T. Ackerley
5 Duc de Savoy, T. Thomson
6 Unknown, T. Wright
7 Ditto, ditto
8 Lord Lilford, T. Gregory

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre, T. Ackerley
2 San Joe, C. Wyche
3 Caliph, M Fogg
4 Polyphemus, C. Wych
5 Black Prince, M. Fogg
6 Unknown, T. Ackerley
7 Unknown, T. Thomson
8 Unknown, T. Wright

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, C. Wyche
2 Baguet, ditto
3 Unknown, T. Wright
4 Tout, M. Fogg
5 Unknown, T. Thomson
6 Violet a Fond Noir, G. Gregory
7 Sancta Sophia, M. Fogg
8 Unknown, T. Thomson

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, T. Ackerley
2 Wallers, ditto
3 Lawrence's Friend, C. Wyche
4 Unknown, M. Fogg
5 Mungo, T. Thomson
6 Unknown, ditto
7 Rubens, M. Fogg
8 Unknown, C. Wyche

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, C. Wyche
2 Comte de Vergennes, T. Ackerley
3 Lady Crewe, T. Thomson
4 Andromeda, T. Ackerley
5 Dolittle, T. Wright

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6 Unknown, T. Thomson
7 Ditto, M. Fogg
8 Roi de Cerise, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, C. Wyche
2 Triomphe Royale, ditto
3 Vesta, T. Ackerley
4 Lord Derby, M. Fogg
5 Lady Lilford, ditto
6 Regina, T. Wright
7 Unknown, T. Wright
8 Unknown, T. Thomson

Breeders.

Bizarre, C. Wyche
Byblœmen, ditto
Rose, T. Thomson

Selfs.

White Perfection, C. Wyche
Min d'Or, ditto

TULIP SHOW,

At Mr. Wm. Postlethwaite's, Queen of Flowers, Union-street, Leigh, May 19.

Maiden Prizes.—1. Charles X., Trafalgar, Surpass Lacantique, Mango, Duc de Bronte, and Rose Vesta. D. Pasquel. 2. Charles X., Heroine, Winward, Bienfait, Wallers, and Rose Unique, J. Ashcroft 3. Charles X., Crown Prince, Lustre de Beauty, Mango, Dolittle, and Rose Unique, J. Wastwell.

Pans.—1. Charles X., Lustre de Beauty, Mango, Bienfait, Heroine, and Rose Unique, R. Ratcliffe. 2. Magnum Bonum, Polyphemus, Lancashire Hero, Wallers, Heroine, and Rose Unique, G. Mort. 3. Magnum Bonum, Lord Stanley, Baguet, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Unique, R. Mort. 4. Charles X., Duke of Devonshire, General Washington, Gibbons's Unknown, Heroine, and Rose Unique, J. Postlethwaite. 5. Charles X., Lustre de Beauty, Bienfait, Bienfait, Lady Crewe, and Rose Unique, J. Eaton. 6. Charles X., George IV., Lancashire Hero, Queen Adelaide, Rose Unique, and Lady Crewe, R. Davies. 7. Kate, San Joe, Lancashire Hero, Queen Adelaide, Heroine, and Rose Unique, J. Boardman. 8. Charles X., Albion, Mango, La Belle Narene, Dolittle, and Rose Unique, P. Hilton. 9. Charles X., Surpass Lacantique, Bienfait, Wallers, Lady Crewe, and Rose Unique, J. Smith. 10. Charles X. Polyphemus, Mango, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Rose Unique, A. Green. 11. Charles X., George IV., Mango, Unknown, Heroine, and Rose Unique, E. Green. 12. Crown Prince, Lustre de Beauty, Baguet, Magnus, Heroine, and Rose Unique, T. Belshaw. 13. Apelles, Lustre de Beauty, Lancashire Hero, Wallers, Comte, and Rose Unique, W. Battersby.

Breeder Pans.—1. Truth, unknown, and Lady Lilford, T. Belshaw. 2. Tuebury, Godet Parfait, and Lady Lilford, J. Boardman. 3. Unknown, byblœmen breeder, and Lady Lilford, R. Clegg. 4. Charbonnier, Duchess of Sutherland, and Lady Lilford, J. Belshaw. 5. Seedling, Great Western, and Village Maid, R. Mort. 6. Unknown, unknown, and Village Maid. G. Mort,

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., J. Thopson
2 Crown Prince, R. Ratcliffe
3 Apelles, J. Postlethwaite
4 Seedling, J. Eaton
5 Magnum Bonum, E. Green
6 Firebrand. J. Thompson
7 Surpass Catafalque, J. Belshaw
8 Paul Pry, W. Battersby
9 Trafalgar, Mrs. A. Green
10 Hero of Waterloo, J. Smith

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre de Beauty, J. Belshaw
2 Lord Lilford, A. Belshaw
3 San Joe, E. Green
4 Lord Milton, R. Ratcliffe
5 Charbonnier, R. Mort
6 Duke of Devonshire, R. Clegg
7 Don Cossack, J. Boardman
8 Albion, J. Eaton
9 Surpass Lacantique, W. Belshaw
10 Polyphemus, J. Postlethwaite

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, R. Mort
2 Lancashire Hero, R. Clegg
3 La Belle Narene, J. Smith
4 Angeline, G. Mort
5 Mango, R. Mort
6 Violet Winner, G. Mort
7 Gen. Washington, W. Postlethwaite
8 Catherine, R. Ratcliffe
9 Britannia, G. Mort
10 Buckley's Beauty, T. Belshaw

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Atlas, R. Ratcliffe
2 Bienfait, P. Hilton
3 Sable Rex, R. Mort
4 Adelaide, R. Clegg
5 Violet Wallers, J. Eaton
6 Queen Charlotte, G. Mort
7 Pyramid of Egypt, ditto
8 Afoia, T. Belshaw
9 Roi de Siam, R. Clegg
10 Incomparable, E. Green

Feathered Roses.

1 Hurst's Rose, J. Belshaw
2 Heroine, R. Mort
3 Lady Crewe, J. Smith
4 Anne Dromiday, G. Mort
5 Glory of Walworth, J. Turner
6 Hero of the Nile, E. Green
7 Seedling, J. Thompson

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8 Duc de Bronte, T. Belshaw
9 Comte, J. Thompson
10 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Unique, J. Eaton
2 Ponceau Brilliant, R. Mort
3 Lady Crewe, J. Belshaw
4 Rose Vesta, G. Mort
5 Rose Anne, R. Mort
6 Roi de Cerise, A. Belshaw
7 Guerrier, R. Ratcliffe
8 La Vandicken, G. Mort
9 Lady Lilford, J. Postlethwaite
10 Lord Hill, G. Mort

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Polyphemus, R. Clegg
2 Charbonnier J. Postlethwaite
3 Duke of Kent, R. Ratcliffe
4 Truth, G. Mort
5 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe
6 Unknown, G. Mort

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 G. Turner
2 Unknown, T. Belshaw
3 Surpass le Grande, J. Postlethwaite
4 Unknown, J. Eaton
5 Lady Seymour, J. Thompson
6 Gibbons's No. 7, J. Belshaw

Rose Breeders.

1 J. Smith
2 Village Maid, T. Belshaw
3 Lady Lilford, J. Thompson
4 Anastasia, R. Mort
5 Lord Derby, T. Belshaw
6 Anne Dromiday, G. Mort

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, G. Mort
2 White Flag, ditto

TULIP SHOW,

At the House of Mr. E. Wade, Longton, May 20.

Pans.—1. Magnum Bonum, San Joe, Violet Alexander, Gibbons, Heroine, and Aglaia, A. Shaw. 2. Charles X., San Joe, David, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Aglaia, T. Cooper. 3. Devonshire, Rising Sun, Prince Elie, Musidora, Comte, and Aglaia, A. Hollinshead. 4. Charles X., Charles X., Winner, Pyramid d'Egypt, Andromeda, and Aglaia, S. Mountford. 5. Charles X., San Joe, Elegance, Baguet, Andromeda, and Triomphe Royale, E. Poulson. 6. Charles X., unknown, Baguet, Gibbons, Dolittle, and unknown, T. Hollins. 7. Savoy, Devonshire, Tout, Lawrence's Friend, Rose Blanche, unknown T. Boot.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., A. Shaw
2 Seedling, ditto
3 Rising Sun, ditto
4 Charles X., T. Cooper
5 Magnum, ditto
6 Villa Flora, A. Shaw
7 Wate.loo, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Paul Pry, E. Poulson
2 Dentonia, ditto
3 Unknown, T. Hollins
4 Rubens, A. Shaw
5 Dentonia, ditto
6 Seedling, E. Poulson
7 Pilot, T. Cooper

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Addison, T. Cooper
2 Maid of Orleans, S. Mountford
3 Gibbons, A. Shaw
4 David, ditto
5 Gibbons, E Poulson
6 Gibbons, A. Shaw
7 Siam, E. Boulson

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Siam, E. Poulson
2 George IV., ditto
3 Emily, ditto
4 Superb a Noir, A. Shaw
5 Rubens, E. Poulson
6 Pyramid d'Egypt, E. Poulson
7 Van Amburg, A. Shaw

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, A. Shaw
2 Andromeda, T. Cooper
3 Ne plus ultra, A. Shaw
4 Comte, T. Cooper
5 Walworth, A Shaw
6 Lady Douro, ditto
7 Aglaia ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, T. Cooper
2 Mason's Matilda, A. Shaw
3 La Vandicken, T. Cooper
4 Triomphe Royale, E. Poulson
5 Village Maid, T. Boot
6 Kate Connor, E. Poulson
7 Rose Quarto, ditto

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Duke of Kent, T. Boot
2 Seedling, ditto
3 Devonshire, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Orleans, S. Mountford
2 Gibbons, A. Shaw
3 Godet Parfait, A. Hollinshead

Rose Breeders

1 Anastasia, S. Mountford
2 Triomphe Royale, A. Shaw
3 Catherine, T. Cooper

HUDDERSFIELD PANSY SOCIETY.

Annual Show, at Mr. J. Haigh's, Crown Tavern, West-gate, May 20.

Stands of Eighteen.—1. Robert Burns, Climax, Duke of Perth, seedling, Lucy Neal, Masterpiece, France Cycole, Rainbow, Adela, Aurora, Duke of

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Norfolk, Queen of England, seedling, Mrs. Beck, Euphemia, Mountain Maid, and two seedlings, E. Hogan, Lockwood. 2. Constellation, Queen of England, Ophir, France Cycole, Climax, Lady Emily, Blanche, Robert Burns, Duke of Perth, Sovereign, Diadem, Mountain Maid, Elegant, Purple Perfection, Marion, seedling, Mrs, Beck, and Mr. Beck, J. Jackson, Deighton.

Stands of Twelve.—1. Gem, Climax, Euphemia, Sir Philip Sydney, Cæsar, Diadem, seedling, France Cycole, California, Polyphemus, Mrs. Beck, and Queen of England, J. Jackson. 2. Duke of Perth, Diadem, Hunt's Ellen, seedling, Maid of Athens, Climax, Robert Burns, Mary Hope, Great Britain, Constellation, seedling, and yellow seedling, J. Moorehouse, Lascelles Hall.

Stands of Six.—1. Yellow seedling, Climax, Hunt's Ellen, Robert Burns, seedling, and Duke of Perth, J. Moorehouse. 2. Sovereign, Duke of Norfolk, France Cycole, Duke of Perth, Golden, Eagle, and Mrs. Beck, G. Rowe, Sheepridge. 3. Climax, Lucy Neal, Robert Burns, Mrs. Beck, Queen of England, and Mr. Beck, E. Hogan.

Yellow Ground.

1 Seedling, J. Moorehouse
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Elegant, J. Jackson

White Ground.

1 Mrs. Beck, J. Jackson
2 G. Rowe
3 Aurora, E. Hogan

Straw Ground.

1 Constellation, J. Moorehouse
2 Noblesse, J. Netherwood
3 Sir Philip Sydney, J. Aspinall

Dark Selfs.

1 Duke of Perth, J. Moorehouse
2 Lucy Neal, E. Hogan
3 Rainbow, ditto

Light Selfs.

1 Yellow seedling, J. Moorehouse
2 Adela, G. Rowe
3 Adela, E. Hogan

The whole of the blooms were considered by the judges to be of excellent quality, and did great credit to the growers. The seedlings were raised by the several parties showing them, and pronounced by the judges to be a great improvement on the old sorts.

RICHARD PRESCOTT'S TULIP MEETING.

Duke-street, Bedford, May 22.

Maiden Pans.—1. Charles X., Rose Vesta, Magnum Bonum, Rose Unique, La Belle Narene, and Surpass Lacantique, R Yates. 2. Charles X., Mango, Lord Lilford, Dolittle Magnum Bonum, and Walworth, J. Turner.

Premier Pans.—1. Charles X., Wallers, Lustre, Lady Crewe, Baguet, and Unique, R. Prescott. 2. Charles X., Lustre, Bienfait, Bienfait, Heroine, and Unique, R. Ratcliffe. 3. Charles X., George IV., Mango, Bienfait, Lady Crewe, and Unique, R. Hindley. 4. Charles X., Albion, Baguet, Atlas, Walworth, and Unique, W. Leather. 5. Crown Prince, Lustre, Mango, Unique, Duc de Bronte, and Wallers, J. Hindley. 6. Charles X., Lustre, Washington, Magnus, Comte, and Unique, J. Thompson.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., W. Leather
2 Surpass Catafalque, R. Prescott
3 Trafalgar, D. Pasquell
4 Crown Prince, R. Hindley
5 Lord Lilford, J. Thompson
6 Magnum Bonum, J. Turner
7 Waterloo, W. Leather
8 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Surpass Lacantique, D. Pasquell
2 Lord Milton, R. Ratcliffe
3 San Joe, W. Leather
4 George IV., R. Hindley
5 Lustre, J. Turner
6 Don Cossack, R. Ratcliffe
7 Polyphemus, W. Leather
8 Albion, D. Pasquell

Feathered Byblæmens.

1 Bienfait, R. Prescott
2 Buckley's Beauty, W. Leather
3 Washington, ditto
4 Baguet, R. Prescott
5 Mango, W. Leather
6 Catherina, R. Ratcliffe
7 Violet Winner, R. Prescott
8 Lancashire Hero, W. Leather

Flamed Byblæmens.

1 Bienfait, R. Prescott
2 La Belle Narene, W. Leather
3 Wallers, R. Yates
4 Atlas, R. Ratcliffe
5 Queen Charlotte, R. Prescott
6 Princess Royal, R. Ratcliffe
7 Adelaide, J. Turner
8 Magnus, W. Leather

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, R. Ratcliffe
2 Lady Crewe, R. Prescott
3 Walworth, W. Leather
4 Andromeda, ditto
5 Comte, ditto
6 Seedling, J. Thompson
7 Village Maid, ditto
8 Seedling, R. Ratcliffe

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Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, J. Turner
2 Rose Vesta, R. Yates
3 Ponceau Brilliant, R. Prescott
4 Guerrier, R. Ratcliffe
5 Roi de Cerise, R. Prescott
6 Village Maid, R. Hindley
7 Unknown, ditto
8 Magnificent, R. Ratcliffe

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Duke of Kent, R. Ratcliffe
2 Charbonnier, R. Prescott
3 Lenius, R. Ratcliffe
4 Devonshire, J. Thompson

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Godet Parfait, R. Ratcliffe
2 Lady Seymour, J. Thompson
3 Gibbons, R. Ratcliffe

Rose Breeders.

1 Village Maid, R Ratcliffe
2 Lady Lilford, ditto
3 Miss Catherine, ditto
4 Andromeda, R. Prescott

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, D. Pasquell
2 White Perfection, R. Prescott

Pot Plants.

1 Baptist Lulla, D. Pasquell
2 Masterpiece, ditto
3 Duke of Lancaster, ditto
4 Lady Blandiers, ditto
5 Attraction, ditto
6 Shakspere, ditto
7 Gaiety, ditto
8 Admiral Codrington, R. Hindley
9 Forget-me-not, D. Pasquell
10 Splendour, J. Thompson
11 Mary Ann, D. Pasquell
12 Louis Philippe, ditto
13 Kelsey, ditto
14 Othello, ditto
15 Fuchsia, unknown, R. Prescott
16 Yellow Rose, J. Thompson
17 Peter Hilton's Seedling, R. Hindley

TULIP SHOW.

At the Navigation Inn, Heaton Norris, Lancashire Hill, Stockport.

Premier Prize.—Charles X., S. Brown.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., J. Morris
2 Lord Lilford, W. Smith
3 Magnum, J. Morris
4 Devonshire, S. Brown
5 Catafalque, J. Morris
6 Savoy, S. Brown
7 Apelles, ditto
8 Rising Sun, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, R. Allsop
2 Polyphemus, ditto
3 Charles X., H. Brown
4 Lustre, J. Morris
5 Albion, R. Allsop
6 Unknown, D. Woolley
7 Rufus, W. Smith
8 Sir Sidney Smith, H. Brown

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, D. Woolley
2 Baguet, G Greaves
3 La Belle Narene, J. Morris
4 Prince Albert, ditto
5 Violet Winner, S. Brown
6 Orleans, ditto
7 Surpassant, W. Smith
8 Mango, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Charlotte, R. Allsop
2 Vernon, S. Brown
3 Bienfait, W. Smith
4 Gadsby, H. Brown
5 Wallers, W. Smith
6 Pyramid, D. Woolley
7 Beauty, J. Morris
8 Van Amburgh, W. Smith

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, R. Allsop
2 Heroine, G. Greaves
3 Newcastle, J. Morris
4 Comte, H. Brown
5 Hero of the Nile, S. Earls
6 Dolittle, J. Greaves
7 Walworth, W. Smith
8 Andromeda, L. Crawford

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, R. Allsop
2 Camillus, J. Morris
3 Aglaia, ditto
4 La Vandicken, D. Woolley
5 Vesta G. Greaves
6 Triomphe Royale, ditto
7 Fairy Queen, J. Morris
8 Lord Hill, H. Brown

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Charbonnier, R. Allsop
2 King Richard, D. Woolley
3 Catafalque, J. Morris

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Orleans, S. Earls
2 Princess Royal, T. Simpson
3 Godet Parfait, W. Smith

Rose Breeders.

1 Lord Derby, R. Allsop
2 Gibbons, ditto
3 Catherine, D. Woolley

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, W. Smith
2 White Flag, G. Greaves

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

NATIONAL CARNATION AND PICOTEE SOCIETY.

We give in full the report of the exhibition of the National Carnation and Picotee Society, at Derby arboretum, on the 8th of August, as it will be a guide to intending purchasers, and is therefore calculated to be extensively useful. We shall reserve our own remarks till the October number.

CARNATIONS AND PICOTEES.

Premier Prize (Class A), *Nurserymen.*—Twelve Carnations and Twelve Picotees, dissimilar varieties, a silver cup, eight guineas, Mr. Turner, of Slough, with, *Carnations*—King John, Ascendant, Exit, Mr. Strutt, Royal Purple, Aglaia, Indispensable, Prince of Oldenburgh, Captain Butler, Defiance, Black Diamond, Admiral Curzon. *Picotees*—Sylvia, Mr. Headly, Sultana, Countess of Errol, Mrs. Hoyle, Mrs. Kelke, Prince Albert, Ellen, Mrs. Drake, Princess, Lady Grenville, Lord Chancellor.

Premier Prize (Class B), *Private Growers.*—Twelve Carnations and Twelve Picotees, a silver cup, eight guineas, Mr. Dodwell, of Derby, with, *Carnations*—Admiral Curzon, Premier, Lorenzo, Sarah Payne, Friar Lawrence, Admiral Curzon, seedling, Premier, Mr. Ainsworth, Firebrand, Lord Milton, Lovely Ann. *Picotees*—Dodwell's 33, Dodwell's 29, Dodwell's 15, May's Ellen, Dodwell's 48, Mrs. Norman, Alfred, Mrs. Barnard, Dodwell's 33, Haidee, Dodwell's 15, Venus.

Premier Prize (Class C), *Private Growers* (open to cultivators of not more than two hundred pairs).—Six Carnations and Six Picotees, a silver cup, four guineas, Mr. Taylor, of Nottingham, with, *Carnations*—Captain Franklin, Lucia, Hale's Albert, Earl of Leicester, Admiral Curzon, Squire Trow. *Picotees*—Lord Nelson, Ophelia, Princess Royal, Mrs. Barnard, Mary, Ganymede.

For Nurserymen.

Stands of Twelve Carnations.—1. Mr. Keynes, Salisbury, with Flora's Garland, Hale's Albert, Acca, Lord Rancliffe, Valentine, Black Diamond, Queen of Roses, Jacques, Sarah Payne, Aglaia, Admiral Curzon, Puxley's Queen. 2. Mr. Turner, of Slough, with Mr. Strutt, Silistria, King John, Ascendant, Omar Pacha, Mr. Cartleugh, Victoria Regina, Jenny Lind, Morgan May, Poor Tom, Black Diamond, Christopher Sly. 3. Mr. Oswald, of Birmingham, with Lord Rancliffe, Uncle Tom, Beauty of Woodhouse, Magnificent, Companion, Duke of Cambridge, Ariel, Duke of Sutherland, Lovely Ann, Lydia, Admiral Curzon, King of Scarlets.

Stands of Twelve Picotees.—1. Mr. Turner, of Slough, with Countess of Errol, Sultana, Mrs. Drake, Princess, Mrs. Kelke, Mrs.

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Keynes, Countess, Ellen, Mrs. Hoyle, Alice, Ariel, Mrs. Dodwell. 2. Mr. Keynes, of Salisbury, with Lilacia, Lavinia, Ophelia, Gem, James II., Mrs. Norman, Mrs. Barnard, L'Elegant, Haidee, Mary Crellon, Alfred, Minerva. 3. Messrs. Schofield & Son, Leeds, with Mrs. Barnard, Lord Nelson, Calliope, Prince of Wales, Bianca, Beatrice (seedling), Eva (seedling), Rosalind, Haidee, Venus, Princess Helena, Mrs. Norman.

For Private Growers.

Stands of Twelve Carnations (Nine Dissimilar Blooms).—1. Mr. Bayley, of Derby, with Flora's Garland, Premier, Lorenzo, Sarah Payne, Admiral Curzon, Falconbridge, Squire Meynell, Admiral Curzon, Falconbridge, Premier, Cradley Pet, Lovely Ann. 2. Mr. Samuel Brown, of Birmingham, with Flora's Garland, Admiral Curzon, Friar Lawrence, Companion, Premier, Poor Tom, Admiral Curzon, Lord Milton, seedling, Poor Tom, Lord Milton, Lady Rhodes. 3. Mr. Henry Steward, of York, with William IV., Ariel, Lord Lewisham, Lady Ely, Admiral Curzon, Squire Meynell, William IV., Squire Meynell, May's Poins, Lord Milton, Poor Tom, Falconbridge. 4. Mr. Dodwell, of Derby, with Flora's Garland, Premier, Sir Joseph Paxton, Premier, Admiral Curzon, Friar Lawrence, Beauty of Woodhouse, Flora's Garland, Lorenzo, Firebrand, Sarah Payne, Admiral Curzon. 5. Mr. Burman, Hull, with Lord Rancliffe, Justice Shallow, Harriet, King of Scarlets, Ariel, Lord Lewisham, Companion, Mr. Ainsworth, Justice Shallow, Lovely Ann, Palladin, Companion. 6. Mr. Baildon, of Halifax, with Vivid, Aglaia, Lady Goderich, Beauty of Woodhouse, Lady of the Manor, Admiral Curzon, Lord Milton, Admiral Curzon, Huntsman, Squire Trow, Firebrand, Black Diamond.

Stands of Twelve Picotees (Nine Dissimilar Varieties).—1. Mr. Steward, of York, with Dodwell's Alfred, Mrs. Barnard, Mrs. Norman, Lady Franklin, Mrs. Barnard, Princess Royal, Enchantress (Matthews), Dodwell's Alfred, Haidee, Gem, Haidee, Juliet. 2. Mr. Bayley, of Derby, with, Dodwell's No. 33, May's Ellen, Prince Arthur, Dodwell's 33, Dodwell's 15, Haidee, Mrs. Barnard, Prince Arthur, Prince Arthur, Mrs. Norman, Venus, Dodwell's 15, Dodwell's 42. 3. Mr. Dodwell, of Derby, with, Dodwell's 44, Dodwell's 15, Dodwell's 33, Dodwell's 17, May's Rosalind, Dodwell's 15, Dodwell's Alfred, Dodwell's 42, Mrs. Norman, Bridesmaid, Venus. 4. Mr. S. Brown, of Birmingham, with Miss Puxley, Countess, Seedling No. 1, Alfred, Green's Queen, Prince of Wales, Seedling No. 2, Seedling No. 3, Dodwell's Mary, Duchess of Cambridge, Haidee. 5. Mr. Taylor, of Nottingham, with Lord Nelson, Mrs. Barnard, Elizabeth, Princess Royal, Gem, Grace Darling, Alfred, Mrs. Barnard, Mrs. Norman, Prince of Wales, Mrs. Norman, Duke of Devonshire. 6. Mr. Burman, of Hull, with Miss Rosa, James II., Hudson's Ann, Ganymede, Costar's Christabel, Duke of Rutland, Paymaster, Haidee, do., Christabel, Duke of Devonshire, Sebastian.

Stands of Six Carnations (open to Growers of not more than Two Hundred Pairs).—1. J. J. Coleman, Esq., of Stoke Holy Cross, with May's Poins, Flora's Garland, Sir J. Paxton, King of Carnations, Squire Trow, Aglaia. 2. Mr. Hedderley, Snenton, Nottingham, with Admiral Curzon, Antonia, Lord Rancliffe, Firebrand, Lord Milton, Rev. J. Bramhall. 3. Mr. S. Eyre, Snenton, Nottingham, with Earl Spencer, Admiral, Curzon, Friar Lawrence, Lord Milton, Firebrand, Lord Rancliffe. 4. Mr. W. Belcher, of Abingdon, with Poins, Lord Milton, Lady Ely, Twyford Perfection, William IV., William Hobbs. 5. Mr. W. Parkinson, Derby, with Lord Milton, Firebrand, Admiral Curzon, Lord Rancliffe, Premier, Lovely Ann.

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6. Mr. John Fisher, with, Friar Lawrence, Admiral Curzon, Cradley Pet, Firebrand, Premier, Lord Milton. 7. Mr. Gill, of Wakefield, with Admiral Curzon, Lord Rancliffe, Lord Milton, Earl of Wilton, Beauty of Woodhouse, Firebrand.

Stands of Six Picotees (open to Growers of not exceeding Two Hundred Pairs).—1. Mr. John Fisher, of Derby, with Dodwell's 33, Mrs. Barnard, Dodwell's 17, Mrs. Norman, Dodwell's 15, Venus. 2. Mr. Eyre, Sneuton, with Rosalind, Mrs. Norman, Lord Nelson, Mrs. Barnard, Gem, Dodwell's Alfred. 3. Mr. Hedderley, with Lord Nelson, Mrs. Barnard, Ophelia, Ganymede, Mrs. Norman, Prince Arthur. 4. J. J. Coleman, Esq., with Countess (Fellowes), Miss Puxley, Constance, Esther, Lady H. Moore, Venus. 5. Mr. Wm. Parkinson, Derby, with Juliet, Mrs. Norman, Mrs. Barnard, Mary Ann, Grace Darling, Lady Harriet Moore. 6. Mr. W. W. Sibley, of Nottingham, with Mrs. Barnard, Lady H. Moore, Ophelia, Bayley's Esther, Gem, Duke of Devonshire. 7. Mr. Lowe, of Derby, seedling, Alfred, Mary Elizabeth, Mrs. Barnard, seedling, Ophelia.

CLASSES.—CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.—1 Holland's Ainsworth, Mr. Turner. 2. Lord Rancliffe, Mr. Hedderley. 3. Silistria, Mr. Turner. 4. Ditto, ditto. 5. Admiral Curzon, Mr. Hedderley. 6. Admiral Curzon, Mr. Bayley.

Crimson Bizarres.—1. Black Diamond, Mr. Keynes. 2 Lord Milton, Mr. Hedderley. 3. Black Diamond, Mr. Keynes. 4. Black Diamond, Mr. Turner. 5. Black Diamond, Mr. Keynes. 6. Lord Milton, Mr. Smith.

Pink and Purple Bizarres.—1. Morgan May, Mr. C. Turner. 2. Sarah Payne, Mr. Steward. 3. Ditto, ditto. 4. Telemachus, Messrs. Schofield & Son. 5. Seedling No. 5, Mr. Dodwell. 6. Henry Kirke White, Mr. Keynes.

Scarlet Flakes.—1. Exit, Mr. C. Turner. 2. Lorenzo, Mr. Sibley. 3. Tybalt, Mr. Keynes. 4. Cradley Pet, Mr. Dodwell. 5. Earl of Leicester, Mr. Taylor. 6. Firebrand, Mr. Keynes.

Rose Flakes.—1. King John, Mr. C. Turner. 2. Flora's Garland, Mr. Keynes. 3. King John, Mr. C. Turner. 4. Ditto, ditto. 5. Constellation, Mr. Oswald. 6. Maid of Athens, Mr. Steward.

Purple Flakes.—1. Premier, Mr. Hedderley. 2. Admiral Napier, Mr. T. Holland. 3. Poins, Mr. T. Eyre. 4. Rev. J. Bramhall, Mr. Hedderley. 5. Enchanter, Mr. H. Steward. 6. Squire Meynell, Mr. Hedderley.

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Red.—1. Sultana, Mr. Turner. 2. Mrs. Hoyle, Mr. Turner. 3. Mrs. Norman, Mr. W. Parkinson. 4. Mrs. Lochner, Mr. C. Turner. 5. Mrs. Hoyle, Mr. C. Turner. 6. Ditto, ditto.

Light-edged Red.—1. Mrs. Kelke, Mr. C. Turner. 2. Ditto, ditto. 3. Ditto, ditto. 4. Prince of Wales, Mr. E. S. Dodwell. 5. Mary Ann, Mr. W. Parkinson. 6. Gem, Mr. Keynes.

Heavy-edged Purple.—1. Alfred, Mr. Steward. 2. Ditto, ditto. 3. No. 44, Mr. Dodwell. 4. Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Merryweather. 5. Alfred, Mr. Dodwell. 6. No. 44, Mr. Dodwell.

Light-edged Purple.—1. Haidee, Mr. Bayley. 2. Enchantress, Mr. Steward. 3. Mrs. Keynes, Mr. Keynes. 4. Seedling No. 33, Mr. Dodwell. 5. Haidee, Mr. Burman. 6. No. 33, Mr. Dodwell.

Heavy-edged Rose.—1. Mrs. Drake, Mr. C. Turner. 2. Lady Grenville, Mr. Turner. 3. Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Keynes. 4. May's Ellen, Mr. C. Turner. 5. Alice, Mr. C. Turner. 6. Marris's Unexpected, Mr. T. Eyre.

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Light-Edged Rose.—1. Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Oswald. 2. Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Taylor. 3. Mrs. Barnard, Messrs. Schofield. 4. Seedling No. 39, Mr. Dodwell. 5. Ditto, ditto. 6. Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Taylor.

Yellow.—1. Conrad, Mr. W. Smith. 2. Conrad, Mr. C. Turner. 3. Aurora, Mr. C. Turner. 4. Seedling (Hoyle) Mr. C. Turner. 5. L'Amiable, Mr. I. Holland.

Premier Carnation.—Holland's Mr. Ainsworth, Mr. C. Turner.
Premier Picotee.—Mrs. Barnard, Mr. H. Steward.

ROSES.

1. Mr. Allestree. 2. Mr. Winson.

Collection from Mr. Cranston, of King's Acre, not for competition, highly recommended; and collection of roses and hollyhocks, from A. Paul & Sons, Cheshunt, Herts, also highly recommended.

HOLLYHOCKS.

Thirty-six Blooms.—Equal—1. Mr. R. B. Bircham, of Hedenham Rosary, and Mr. C. Turner, of Slough. 3. Mr. Chater, of Saffron Walden. 4. I. I. Colman, Esq., of Norwich.

Spikes (seven).—1. Mr. Bircham. 2. Mr. Chater.

Extra Prize for Collection of Spikes.—Mr. Bircham.

Mr. Bircham's hollyhocks comprise the following:—Best Seven Spikes—Eugenie, salmon and buff; Gem, dark crimson; C. Barron, salmon: Omar Pacha, fawn and lemon; Pourpre de Tyre, ruby purple; Princess Alice, cream; Unique, pink and crimson.—Cut Blooms—Sultana, Queen of Denmark, Omar Pacha, Felicia, Pandora, Black Prince, Yellow Model, Mrs. Dowson, Eva, Pourpre de Tyre, Gem, Penelope, Queen of Denmark, Mr. Turner, Criterion, Duchess of Sutherland, Princess Alice, King of Roses, Hedenham Rival, Brennus, Solfaterre, Standard.—Seedling Spikes (the extra collection)—Sultana, Hedenham Rival, Queen of Faries, Mrs. Dowson, Unique, Criterion, Athenæum, William Griffiths, Queen of Fairies, Paul Ricaut.

THE DINNER AND PRESENTATION.

At halfpast five o'clock in the evening, upwards of a hundred persons sat down to dinner at Mrs. Cantrill's, King's Head Hotel, under the presidency of John Edwards, Esq., of Holloway, near London; Mr. Thos. Adams occupying the vice-chair. Amongst the company present were, the Hon. and Rev. F. Curzon, the Mayor of the Borough (Thomas Madeley, Esq.), Messrs. W. Taylor, F. Huggins, W. Abell, Evan Paul, G. Hall (architect), Bloor, J. W. Beeson, R. Russell, W. Rowbottom, Hurst, Walton, Watson, Costin, Parkins, J. Lowe, B. Guest, F. Williamson, Parkinson, and J. Walkerdine, of Derby; E. J. Lowe, Esq., of Highfield House; J. F. Lombard, Esq., Dublin; Messrs. Brown, Alexander, Eyre, Hedderley, Taylor, I. C. Wasnidge, Lymbery, and W. W. Sibley, Nottingham; Mr. Wood, editor of the *Midland Florist;* Mr. Keynes, Salisbury; Mr. C. Turner, Royal Nurseries, Slough; Mr. J. Holland, Middleton, near Manchester; Mr. Stewart and Mr. Hepton, of York; Mr. Marris, Leicester;

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Mr. Scholefield, Ashton; Mr. Schofield, Leeds; Mr. Belcher, Abingdon; Mr. Smith, Witney; Mr. Merryweather; Mr. Burman, Hull; Mr. Brierley, Rochdale; John Haines, Esq., Tipton; Mr. R. R. Oswald and Mr. Samuel Brown, Birmingham.

On the withdrawal of the cloth, the following toasts were drank:- "The Queen," "Prince Albert and the rest of the royal family," "His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, president of the Midland Horticultural Society, and Sir Joseph Paxton," "Success to the National Carnation and Picotee Society," "The judges" (acknowledged by Mr. Keynes), and "The mayor and corporation of Derby."

In acknowledging the latter toast, the MAYOR said, it had afforded him pleasure to be present on that occasion—indeed, after the beautiful exhibition the society had treated the inhabitants with that day, he considered it to be his duty to attend and manifest an interest in their proceedings.—(Hear, hear.)—He trusted that the efforts of the society to make these exhibitions worthy of public support, would meet with a suitable response from the inhabitants of the town and county. He was afraid, from what he had heard, that their funds were not so well supported as they ought to be; but he felt sure that when this fact was made known, after the great treat afforded them to-day, the society would experience the benefit of increased aid by a large augmentation of patrons and subscribers. Derby ought to feel proud of such exhibitions, and he, for one would be happy to render the society all the support in his power.—(Applause.)—On behalf of himself and the members of the corporation, he begged to thank them for the flattering reception given to the toast.—(Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "The health of the exhibiters that day," and then presented the principal prizes, namely, three handsome silver cups, to Mr. Turner, of Slough; Mr. Dodwell, of Derby; and Mr. Taylor, of Snenton, near Nottingham. Money prizes to the extent of a hundred guineas, he announced, would be duly paid on the morrow.

MR. DODWELL, at the request of Mr. Turner, returned thanks.

MR. TURNER gave "The committee of management of the Midland Society," and complimented them on the highly creditable manner in which they had carried out the arrangements.

MR. ADAMS (the vice-chairman) acknowledged the toast, on behalf of himself and colleagues.

THE CHAIRMAN then called upon the meeting for attention to Mr. Wood, editor of the *Midland Florist*, who had been deputed by the committee to present the testimonial to Mr. Dodwell.

MR. WOOD, after the demonstrations of respect his rising was the signal for had somewhat subsided, said, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen—In accepting the duty devolved upon me by the committee, of presenting to Mr. Dodwell the expression of respect and esteem from the florists of Derby and of the kingdom at large which the testimonial embodies, I assure you I have

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assumed a duty which is to me at once a source of pride and delight, only lessened by my inability to render it in a manner worthy of the occasion. Addressing a company of florists, men endued with a love of nature, and who had tested the truth of the saying of the old philosopher, the saying be it remembered of one who had had ample experience of human aims and pleasures—"Gardening is the purest of human pleasures, and the greatest refreshment to the spirit of man"—it perhaps might seem needless for him to waste a single word in the vindication of floriculture. But the value of the testimonial depended upon the fact that it was in acknowledgment of services rendered in a good cause; and the pursuits of the florist, though the subject of great misapprehension, was a good cause. Dealing with that which so purely appealed to the eyes, and which required in all cases a certain amount of preparatory study before the excellence of the subject presented could be appreciated, it was no wonder that misapprehension existed. But that misapprehension was no bar to the excellence of the florist's aims and his labours. Nor was it any bar to the propriety of his pursuit or the truthfulness of his taste, that he turned with disgust from an inferior type of the cultivated flower, and would be pleased only with the highest attainable excellence. Would the art of painting be condemned because Raphael could not delight in the daub suspended over a village ale-house? Would the beauty of sculpture be denied because a Flaxman, a Canova, or a Thorwaldsen, would not be content with the crude botchings of an ignorant mason? No. And the florist no more deserved reprehension for the rejection of imperfect types of cultivation.—(Applause.)—Another grand error which he had often found prevailing with respect to the pursuits of the florist, was the idea that it implanted in him a distaste for wild flowers. Why to the florist all nature was glorious. The blade of grass beneath his foot, the banks of cowslips and primroses, the field of gold-cups, the waving corn, the foliage of trees, the undulating plains, the towering hills, the dense forests, and beetling crags, all, all were beautiful, filling him with a delight which only those so inspired could realize.—(Applause.)—Adverting to the debt of gratitude we owe to the explorers of the past and present day—men to whose energy we owed some of the loveliest gems which adorned our gardens and conservatories, and who in their pursuit had braved all the dangers to be encountered from savage beasts, and more savage men, penetrated the thickest jungles and opened up countries, till then hermetically sealed to civilized men—Mr. W. dwelt upon the delight of floriculture. From the prince to the peasant, from the merchant in his counting-house to the toiling artizan freed from the labour of his work-shop, on all alike it shed a charm. But like all things on earth, the greatest charms, the sweetest delights, needed exponents, and where could they find them so fitly as in the exhibition like that they had just left—an exhibition of which, in the

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wordsof their worthy mayor, "Derby ought indeed to be proud." —(Applause.)—And to whom was the merit of producing such an exhibition chiefly due? Why, to his friend Mr. Dodwell.—(Applause.)—He had been cautioned to speak little of the individual, and speaking in his presence he was restrained from saying much he would otherwise have dilated upon. But he could not be wholly silent. He could not discharge the duty they had placed in his hands without referring to the qualities of his friend. Years ago, before he knew Mr. Dodwell, he (Mr. W.) used to visit Derby as a censor, and though his friends were then in earnest, then heartily desired to present their flowers worthily before the public, he must say their exhibitions were very insignificant. Earnestly as they strove, there was a want, and a very large want, always perceptible. There was a want of arrangement, a want of effect—in fine, there was a want of a master-mind. Mr. Dodwell came amongst them a total stranger, he had no ordinary difficulties to surmount, but with unflagging energy, indomitable perseverance, and unconquerable "pluck," choosing always to do that which was right, and to oppose that which was wrong, he had steadily pressed on, until Derby, from a fourth or a fifth-rate position, might proudly say her exhibitions gave place to none in the provinces. As a man his friend was distinguished for his open hand and warm heart, beloved and esteemed wherever he was known. Turning to Mr. Dodwell, Mr. Wood concluded by saying, "In handing, Sir, to you this purse, and this elegant scroll, as a small mark of the esteem and regard of the subscribers, I do so in the sincere hope that you may long be spared to dwell with pleasure upon this simple expression of your fellows." Mr. W. then heartily shook hands with Mr. Dodwell, amidst the warmest demonstrations of applause.

The testimonial consists of a purse of sixty-five sovereigns, accompanied with a scroll elegantly framed, and bearing the following inscription:—

"To mark their sense of his disinterested efforts to advance the progress of floriculture, their esteem for his private character, and their appreciation of his zealous and untiring labour on behalf of the Midland Horticultural Society, this scroll and a purse of sixty-five sovereigns, the produce of a voluntary subscription, were presented to Mr. Ephraim Syms Dodwell, by the committee, many subscribers, and an influential portion of British florists, at the annual meeting of the National Carnation and Picotee Society, held at Derby, August 8th, 1854."

The scroll is the work of Mr. J. W. Beeson, of the Full-street academy, and is beautifully executed, the inscription being surrounded by an arabesque border in bronzes and brilliant colours, in which the figure of Flora, Mr. Dodwell's cypher, and a variety of other devices, are appropriately introduced, the whole doing great credit to the taste and skill of Mr. Beeson. The scroll to Mr. Bayley is similar in design and ornament.

Mr. E. S. Dodwell, on rising, was received with warm and renewed demonstrations of kindness, and spoke as follows:—Mr.

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Chairman and gentlemen, at a moment such as this, I should be loth to utter mere commonplace, but I feel that I must avow myself entirely unable adequately to acknowledge your great and wholly unlooked-for kindness. Ample as the time has been for me to prepare myself for this moment, it has in no way diminished the difficulty, or lessened the surprise with which I first learnt of your purpose. Valuing as amongst the best of possessions the good opinion of my fellow-men, and desiring always most sincerely to deserve their esteem, this expression has so utterly exceeded all that I could ever have hoped to realize, that I feel it is hopeless to attempt an acknowledgment. So far indeed from anticipating such an expression, I have always felt I needed to be armed with an apology for my seeming presumption in doing that which, little as it has been, I have done. But, gentlemen, I feel I can now with sincerity say I have not been actuated with merely frivolous conceit. I had a sufficient answer in the case of the Horticultural Society here, in the ample and able support of my good friends on the committee, and especially in the professional ability, the sound judgment, and unflagging zeal of my friend and excellent colleague, Mr. Bayley.—(Applause.)—Of my obligation to Mr. Bayley, and to the committee, I cannot speak too much at length—to them is due the success which the society has attained, and with such aid I could not but feel timidity and hesitation would have been as injurious as it would have been out of place.—(Applause.)—With regard to the little to which my name has been attached in the pages of floral works, I have simply to remark I proposed only to exhibit my sympathy with the efforts made by my friends, Mr. Wood and Mr. Turner, to disseminate a wider knowledge of the art of the florist, of its truth, the beauty to be elicited, and the delight which might be reaped by even the humblest, in its practice. I hoped by exhibiting my sympathy with the efforts made by my friends to rescue florists, and floriculture, from much misapprehension and unmerited odium, to enlist the sympathy of others—and this alone would have repaid me a thousand-fold. But your sympathy and your consideration has exceeded everything I could have framed in my wildest dreams, and left me a hopeless debtor to your kindness. Through all the future I shall remember it, and dwell upon this splendid testimony of your approval with feelings of the sincerest and the deepest gratitude.—(Applause.)—"Flowers," says one of our most eminent modern writers, "besides being beautiful in themselves, are suggesters of every other kind of beauty—of gentleness, of youthfulness, of hope. They are evidence of nature's good nature; proofs manifest that she means us well, and more then well; that she loves to give us the beautiful in addition to the useful. They neutralize bad with good; beautify good itself, make life livelier; human bloom more blooming, and anticipate the spring of heaven over the winter of the grave. Their very frailty, and the shortness

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of their lives, please us, because of this their indestructible association with beauty; for while they make us regret our own like transitory existence, they soothe us with a consciousness, however dim, of our power to perceive beauty; therefore of our link with something divine and deathless, and of our right to hope that immortal thoughts will have immortal realization." —(Applause.)—Gentlemen, sincerely believing that immortal thoughts may be linked to flowers, that beauty of a higher order than that in which it has pleased the Almighty to leave some of His works may be developed by the hand of man, I earnestly trust many will be stirred up to diffuse a knowledge of the principles on which the florist works—and when they see how much has been accorded to one so insignificant as myself, I think they can hardly refrain.—(Applause.)—I am delighted to see our worthy mayor present to do us honour on this occasion, and on behalf of myself and the society, I beg to tender thanks for this manifestation of his good wishes.—(Applause.)—To conclude, gentlemen, I beg you to accept my most sincere and unaffected thanks, and to believe that to the latest hour of my life I shall never cease to dwell with proud regard upon this exhibition of your kindness.—(Much applause.)

The Vice-President then rose to present a purse, containing thirty-seven sovereigns, to Mr. Bayley, together with a scroll containing the following inscription:—

"As a token of their appreciation of his private worth, and a slight acknowledgment of his zealous and untiring labour on behalf of the Midland Horticultural Society, this scroll and a purse of thirty-seven sovereigns, the produce of a voluntary subscription, were presented to Mr. Bayley, by the committee and a numerous circle of sincere friends. Derby, August 8, 1854."

Mr. Adams said this testimonial originated in a happy thought, and like the one to Mr. Dodwell, was the result of voluntary free-will offerings on the part of those who appreciated the valuable services both gentlemen had rendered. It was, in fact, a testimony of their friendship and esteem for Mr. Bayley, of whom he would not say much in his presence, beyond what Mr. Dodwell had himself so cheerfully admitted.—(Applause.)—He had been acquainted with both gentlemen some years, and he coincided in all that had been said of his friend Mr. Dodwell. Two more mutual friends did not exist, and he believed that the society was indebted for its prosperity to one as much as the other.—(Applause.)—Mr. Bayley was a most unassuming man, but he was always ready at the call of every good work; and it was out of respect for his conduct as a man, as the father of a family, and as one of the secretaries to this society, that this testimonial was presented to him—(Applause.)—"Mr. Bayley (said Mr. A. in conclusion), in the name of this goodly company, I present to you this purse and scroll, and I trust you will receive it, as it is given to you, with the heartiest feelings of good will."—(Much applause.)

Mr. Bayley was received with loud cheers. After thanking them most warmly for this, to him, gratifying mark of esteem,

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he said if any services of his merited such mark of their approval, he could only say that he was indeed proud. His pride on the occasion was however considerably abated when he came to consider how incapable he was of thanking them as he ought for their kindness. He assured them that what he had done had been more than compensated for by the success which had attended their combined efforts to produce a show which had excited the admiration of amateurs, and drawn forth encomiums from experienced florists.—(Applause.)—To his friend and colleague, Mr. Dodwell, and the working members of the committee, they are especially indebted; and in so imperfectly acknowledging the great kindness shown towards himself, it afforded him additional pleasure to speak thus of his friends and colleagues.—(Applause.)—Again, he thanked them most heartily for this manifestation of their kind feeling towards him.—(Applause.)

Then followed the healths of "Mr. Beeson" (proposed by the vice-president), "The promoters of the testimonial" (proposed by Mr. Lombard, of Dublin, and acknowledged by Mr. Cooling), "The chairman," "The vice-chairman," "The visiters," and "The ladies."

The evening was passed in the most agreeable manner. In the course of the proceedings, it was announced that the national exhibition of the Carnation and Picotee Society, would be held next year at Oxford, about the 1st of August.

AN HOUR AMONG THE TULIPS AT FELTON MILLS.

BY MR. WM. HARRISON, SECRETARY TO THE FELTON UNION OF FLORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS.

[Continued from page 231.]

Delaforce's Earl Douglas.—A very desirable bizarre, always richly feathered with a fine glossy brown, and fine pencilling in the flame. Perfectly pure, and steady in its style of marking. I have always understood this flower to be one of the late Mr. Delaforce's raising, and never knew it in Northumberland under any other name.

Cleopatra.—This is a very fine lightly-feathered and flamed byblœmen, perfectly pure and distinct, and a very desirable flower.

Ackery.—A very rich bizarre, with heavy feather and flame. Colours very rich and attractive, and a very desirable flower.

Gibbons's Countess of Harrington.—A fine pure flower, feathered and very slightly flamed. The marking a rich dark purple. Extra fine this year.

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Gibbons's Premier.—A rich feathered and flamed byblœmen, perfectly pure, and very desirable.

Jacomb's Perfection.—A very rich bizarre, with an elegant brown feather, cup exceedingly fine and pure, and colours rich and attractive.

Glenny's Duke of Northumberland.—This fine byblœmen maintains the high character given it two years ago, by the editor of the *Midland Florist* and myself. Many of the blooms here are exceedingly fine this season, the markings being a rich black purple feather and nice flame, on a snowy white ground. It is indeed *extra, extra* fine, and ought to be in every good bed.

Gibbons's Lady Flora.—One of the finest Chellastons ever yet seen in Coquet Side. Fine light feather, on a beautiful white ground; cup grand, and in every respect extra fine. I suppose this to be a different flower from Lady Flora *Hastings*,but really there is so much misunderstanding about the Chellastons, that one never knows where one is amongst them.

Tyso's Polydora.—This fine variety has been exceedingly grand here this season, with its fine cup, rich pure bottom, and heavy brown feather. It ought to be grown by every competing florist, and may always be relied on as quite first-rate.

Garnett's Trafalgar.—A rich scarlet feather and flame, on a beautiful yellow ground. Quite pure.

Wilie's Robert Wilie.—A light flamed byblœmen, but quite creamy and very poor here this season.

Dark's Don Cossack.—A very grandly-feathered and flamed bizarre, on a rich yellow ground. Flaming very regular and beautiful, colour very dark, and altogether a most attractive bizarre.

Duc de Florence.—A large noble byblœmen, cup perfectly pure, with a fine delicate feather. An extra fine sort for the competing amateur.

Gibbons's Van Amburgh.—A fine feathered byblœmen, beautifully pencilled in the flame. A noble cup, but rather creamy this season.

Gibbons's Anastasia.—Rich and pure, but quite flamed here this year.

Page's King.—A grand heavy-feathered bizarre, ground colour rich and quite pure. Very extra this year.

Rose Brilliant —Fine starry flame, and distinct; cup quite pure.

Optimus.—A fine rich bizarre, with a light feather and pillared flame. Very pretty.

Reid's Addison.—A grand heavy-feathered byblœmen, quite pure in the cup, but the stamens rather stained at the top. A noble flower.

Lavinia.—A beautiful large flower, with a light rosy feather and beam. Extra fine this year.

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Strong's Hero.—Rich yellow ground, with fine feather and slight flame. Very pure and fine.

Rutley's Queen.—A very grand byblœmen indeed, with slight feather and no flame. Colour a rich purple. A noble flower. The cup rather creamy at first, but soon bleaches.

Bromfield's Omar Pacha.—A very grand byblœmen, broke last year. Fine black feather and little flame, much in the style of Addison, and very pure.

Bromfield's Garibaldi.—Another fine byblœmen, with quite a black heavy feather and fine pencilled flame. Rather creamy interior, but a noble middle-row flower. It has the colour and feather of a fine La Belle Narene. Broke also last year, from Mr. Bromfield's own breeders.

Bromfield's Mrs. Bromfield.—This flower has also been very fine this year, with its dark feather, on a pure white ground. It will be likely, when more plentiful, to take a high position among the feathered byblœmens. This will be the more readily believed when we consider its name, for who that has had experience with nearly all the favourite varieties in existence, would name an inferior flower after *his wife?* It also broke from one of Mr. Bromfield's breeders, and the stock is entirely in his own hands.

Slater's Hogarth.—This is a very rich and beautiful bizarre, with a fine cup and delicate feather, but the bottom is *very, very* slightly stained.

Duke of Hamilton.—Broke last year. Fine large cup, rich ground colour, fine light brown flame, and quite pure.

Hero of Renfrew.—A fine large-cupped flower, rich light feather, fine white ground, and very pure. A beautiful rose at first, but dies off quite a byblœmen.

Bromfield's General Luders.—A fine little byblœmen, heavily feathered with dark purple, quite pure. Broke last year.

Bromfield's Admiral Napier.—A fine large bizarre, beautifully feathered and flamed with glossy brown. Broke last year, and perfectly pure.

Slater's Colbert.—One of the richest bizarres ever grown, the ground being a fine golden yellow, delicately feathered with dark brown, and a slight beam. It is a grand flower, and must command the admiration of every one.

Pompe Funebre.—Mr. Bromfield's strain of this variety, with just a fine black feather, is very handsome. In this state, it is *a real gem.*

Slater's Duke of Richmond.—A beautiful rich bizarre, with a slight brown feather and most exquisite cup, and perfectly pure in every respect. Too much cannot be said in praise of this lovely bizarre, which would be considered a star of the first magnitude in any bed.

Clark's Duke of Wellington.—A finely-feathered and slightly-flamed bizarre, very much like a fine strain of Polyphemus.

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Brown's Polyphemus.—A fine light feather and no flame. Extra fine. The strain of Polyphemus bought here some years ago, from the late Mr. Jeffrey's collection, is precisely similar, and is always fine and steady. This seems to be the same strain.

Pamela.—From the late Mr. Hogg. A very grand heavily-feathered and slightly-flamed rose, similar to Madame Vestris, but the anthers blacker and bolder. A beautiful flower.

Cotterell's Elizabeth.—This variety has a very fine delicate red feather, on a rich yellow ground. It is an extra fine and very distinct sort.

Haward's Magnificent.—A most gorgeous flower, and well named, possessing a very large cup and heavy scarlet feather, but the bottom often very difficult to bleach. It broke with me also this year, but I found mine not to be bleached, If from the same breeder, it is certainly far inferior to the superlative Jenny Lind.

Gibbons's Maid of Orleans.—This has been very grand with me, this season, and took our first feathered prize. I broke it five years ago, in the same style,—quite a raven black feather, on its snowy white ground,—and it has never again been so fine till this year. Nothing can touch it when in this style, except it be Mr. Bromfield's fine strain of David. What a pity it is so little to be depended on.

Clark's Portia.—This is a very elegantly-feathered rose, and when more generally circulated, must always take a high place in its class, being pure and in every respect fine.

Jeffrey's No. 3.—A gorgeous high-coloured rose, with heavy feather and flame, and rather creamy in the bottom. It is a showy middle-row flower, but rather long in the cup, and broke from one of Mr. Jeffrey's breeders.

Strong's Ada.—A very scarce flower, with fine feather and little flame. A trifle creamy for a day or so, but soon bleaches perfectly pure. It is still in very few hands.

Alexander's Triumph.—A very elegantly-feathered rose, from Mr. Alexander, of Shacklewell. It is a decided acquisition, being much lighter in the feather than Heroine, and totally without bar or beam. If steady to this character, it must be admitted to be a real gem.

Kate Connor. (Whose ?)—We know little of Kate here, yet; but, from the peculiar waxiness of the white in the bottom of the cup, and the fine *attempts* she makes at feathering, here and there, we have high hopes of her in time to come.

Gibbons's Sable Monarch.—With me, this has been quite a light feather and light flame, of pale purple, and nothing *sable* about it. Surely this is not the character of the flower, as shown at Darlington, two years ago.

Gibbons's Chellaston Beauty.—This beautiful variety seems to be steady in its marking as a clean feather. Its bottom being

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quite pure, and cup good, it must be a favourite in every locality.

Gibbons's Lady Leicester.—This variety seems to possess a pure bottom, good cup, and slight feather of darkish rose. It was rather suffused in colour with me, but I have high hopes of it.

Gibbons's Duchess of Sutherland.—This variety is pure and fine in the cup, but much run in feather and flaming, this year, and not in fine character.

Gibbons's Midland Beauty.—Rather a rosy byblœmen. Quite pure, good cup, slight feather and flame, and *rather* long, though very pretty.

Willison's King.—This new variety has been clean and fine with me, this season, and each petal pillared, rather in the style of Holmes's King, but quite without feather.

Gibbons's Lady Jane Grey.—With me, this has been finely pencilled in feather and flame, but quite blue in the bottom of the cup, so that it is either incorrect or worthless.

Lawrence's Milton.—This variety has been very fine with Mr. Bromfield, this season—quite a heavy black feather, on the rich yellow ground. An occasional *pounciness* below the feather is the only failing of this variety; but when free from this, as it has been here, this season, there is scarcely an existing variety that can beat it, the cup is so magnificent, and the colours are so striking. It is, undoubtedly, one of the best bizarres in cultivation.

Milner's Duke of Devonshire.—After all that has been said by O. C. and R. O., we are still inclined to consider this quite a different variety from *Dickson's* Duke of Devonshire. It is undoubtedly, a very fine feathered flower, but scarcely equal to Dickson's Duke in the intensity of the markings; not quite so good in the outside colour, nor yet so bold and commanding a variety, but still a most beautiful and desirable sort. Dickson's Duke, from its strength, grandeur, and magnificent size, should always be grown in the middle of the bed, while Milner's is more suited for the third row. My friend, John Grahamsley, Esq., surgeon, Felton Bridge End, generally grows Milner's in fine style, and a very fine bloom of it took our fifth prize, this season; but it certainly was rather too old, and just on the point of quartering, or it would, no doubt, have occupied a much higher position. Mr. Bromfield has grown Dickson's Duke since 1843, and during that time, has frequently found his stock of it bad to keep up, while Milner's is admitted by all to be very prolific. In this respect, it resembles Milton, which is also a good thriver. My advice to competing amateurs is to grow *the whole of them*, as they are so good that nobody can have too many, and no bed can be complete without them all. They are certainly a beautiful trio, and among the very choicest gems in cultivation.—Here, for the present, we stop.

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ERRATA IN LAST NUMBER.—*Lilas Grand Vase.*—For large and magnificent *rose*, read *byblœmen.*

For Violet *Cupedon*, read *Cupedo.*

Hero of the Nile.—For "rich scarlet cup, rather long," read "rich scarlet feather, cup rather long," &c.

P.S.—I have to thank Mr. Lightbody, of Falkirk, for informing me that the flower noticed as *Lightbody's Falkirk Hero* is not his, as he never had a flower under that name; and that the byblœmens noticed as *Reid's John Waterston* and *Reid's Robert Andrew* are not Reid's, but Zuill's. Mistakes *will* occur in the choicest collections, but really dealers ought to be more careful how they send flowers with incorrect names over the country.

W. H.

West Thirston, August 10, 1854.

JOTTINGS ON FLOWERS AND PLANTS,

MADE DURING A COMMERCIAL TOUR, IN THE SUMMER OF 1854;

BY R. S.

DURING my professional tour, this season, I have seen some beautiful new things. In fact, a great number; giving abundant evidence that there is lack of neither demand nor supply. Amongst greenhouse and half-hardy plants, I was much pleased with the Fabiana violacea. Many of your readers, I doubt not, have seen the F. imbricata, appearing to have some affinity to a hardy heath, the branches being clothed with long tubular white blossoms. It is nearly hardy, but has been killed out of doors, during the past severe winter. F. violacea is similar to this, but its flowers are violet. I do not think it so attractive as F. imbricata, still it is a most beautiful plant. Hydrangea Japonica variegata is also very ornamental. The foliage has not that sickly appearance which many variegated plants have, but is clear, bold, and attractive. Nerium splendens gigantium is another good thing, and when kept low, might do for the small greenhouses of the artizans, which I am happy to see

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are beginning to appear in many gardens in the vicinity of the large towns I have visited. It is a decided beat on the old variety. Amongst phloxes, which have been specially beautiful this season, and which are well adapted for greenhouse culture, were P. Kilburnii, a delightful deep violet, with purple eye. P. Mayii variegata, with its rosy stripes, on a white ground, is now pretty well known. A new continental variety, with the high-sounding title of General Radetzky, is of deeper colour, approaching crimson, and, from its striking appearance, is sure to become a favourite. A nice greenhouse climber is Tasconia ignea, closely related to the passion flower, but with brilliant scarlet blooms. The Chinese azaleas, which are so easily cultivated, and flowering, as they do, when of small size, should, I think, demand more attention here than they do. Of these there are several double varieties. Perhaps Glory of Sunning Hill, with its rich rose-coloured flowers, is one of the best; then Azalea narcissiflora, double white. I very much admired Stanleyana, with its rich light scarlet flowers and beautiful form. Beaute d'Europe, pink, striped with a darker shade, is also very distinct. Perryana, a brilliant well-formed scarlet, tinged with orange, is one of the richest. The plants of this variety were really a blaze of bloom, and amazingly attractive. Of camellias, I saw very many good ones. There appears to be continuous importations by many of our leading cultivators, from France, Belgium, Italy, and America. Mathotiana, with very striking rich crimson flowers, is beautiful indeed. Feastii is of very exquisite form, and delicately marked with pink. Lady Broughton, a rich and attractive deep crimson, I thought well of. At Messrs. Henderson's, where an immensity of new and good things are grown, I particularly remarked their fine new fuchsia, Monarch, one of the scarlet class, but with many good points about it. The sepals are wide, and rich scarlet, whilst the corolla has a peculiar bluish tinge, which renders it very

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attractive. Fornarina was a very showy fancy geranium. The upper petals have large dark spots, on a pink ground; the three under ones also being richly marked. Bonnie Lassie is also very good. The flowers are striking,—rich crimson, margined with white, and a distinct white eye. Amongst an amazing quantity of varieties, was a new one, raised by Mr. Keynes, of Salisbury, and certainly well named Pretty Polly. The flowers are salmon, with dark blotch, and, what adds much to its value, the foliage is beautifully scented. In the horseshoe-leaved and scarlet geraniums, much has been done. Boule de Neige (Snowball) has a compact head of white flowers, each being as round as a phlox. This is really good, and very far superior to Hendersonii. Kingsbury Pet is a very pretty thing, of dwarf compact habit, handsome foliage, and the flowers round.

A few fuchsias, independent of Monarch, have come under my observation. Some, let out this season, at a high price, are positively not worth growing. Amongst these are Batten's Admiral and Grandissima, really, though grown well, very poor indeed. His Charles Palmer may pass muster for a white. The sepals are white, tipped with green, corolla salmon red. Charmer, also a light one, is better. The habit is neat, and flower distinct, the corolla deep violet. Those who are fond of reflexed flowers will have their taste gratified in Autocrat, for the sepals reflex as much as it is possible for them to do. The corolla is rich purple, with a lighter shade at the top. The sepals are wider and brighter than in Dr. Lindley, which variety Autocrat favours very much. Clio is a fine white, with rich pink corolla; and though longer, I like Queen of Hanover better than any light flower which came under my observation. The tube is very pure, reflexing nicely, with a rich deep rose corolla. Omega is rather small in foliage and flowers, but I admired it for its bluish corolla, varying in this particular from most others in its class. Omega must indeed be my last on this

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occasion, but I hope, next month, to be enabled to describe some new verbenas, phloxes, &c. which appear to be making as rapid improvement as other classes of flowers.

THE EDITOR'S RECORD.

"These things we would buy ourselves, and therefore recommend them."

HOLLAND'S MR. AINSWORTH CARNATION.—This is a splendid scarlet bizarre, which attracted much attention at the national exhibition, at Derby, on the 8th of August. It is a large flower, with stout well-formed petals, white good, and the marone and scarlet evenly distributed in broad and distinct flakes. We considered it a first-class flower, and it will prove a serious competitor to our old favourite, Admiral Curzon. As will be seen by the report of the exhibition, it was awarded the prize as the best carnation amongst the great number brought into competition.

CONQUEROR CUCUMBER.—A most beautiful sort. Short thick neck, slightly ribbed, attains from twenty-six to thirty inches in length. We have seen splendid fruit this season, from a plant grown in a pot and trained to a trellis. It is a cross between Miller's early Saracen and Prizefighter.

BERTHA LIGHT ROSE PICOTEE.—Raised by that indefatigable florist, Mr. R. Marris, of Leicester; and when we say that we believe Mrs. Barnard has at last got her match, our florist friends will know how to appreciate Bertha.

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

In the autumn of 1852, I took a pot, containing a plant of King James and one of Venus Picotee, into the vinery, and attempted to c[illegible] flower of each variety with that of its

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fellow. Both flowers, to all appearance, were thoroughly impregnated, as the seed vessel of each went on well, until some accident befel that on Venus. The other, or King James, being early matured, I immediately sowed the seeds, fifty-three in number, which, by strict attention to watering, &c., all came up that autumn. I carefully potted each into a small thumb pot, keeping them near the glass all winter. In the spring of 1853 I planted the whole in a line, and they grew so rapidly as to lead me to suppose they would flower that season. But no; I had to be patient till 1854; and now I send you a few of the flowers, for your opinion. All, both single and double, are beautifully edged, one-half of the plants somewhat resembling Venus, and the other half King James, from which the pod of seed was taken. WM. WILLISON.

We insert Mr. Willison's communication with the picotees which came for our opinion. Considering the amount of plants raised from one pod of seed, they were very good. Three of them, we are persuaded, will take a high place in their class. The others had smooth well-formed petals, the only defect was their being occasionally barred.

No. 29. Heavy-edged red picotee. The colour well confined to the edge, the petals gently cupped. As sent, it appears to be rather defective in the white; otherwise a promising flower.

37. Heavy rose. Too much barred.

20. Pinkish rose. Medium. The same defect as the preceding one.

36. A capitally-formed medium rose edge. Crowns very nicely, petals smooth, and plenty of them.

39. A very smooth-petalled, pretty rose-edged flower. Bars. Still there are a number of clear, well-marked petals.

4. Heavy violet purple. Good white, rather small. When grown to its proper size, we think it will do.

35. A lively heavy red. The white good and the margin brilliant. A very promising variety.

1. Medium red-edge. A good petal. Should be tried again.

27. Heavy purple. Plenty of petals. If grown larger, it might do.

17. Medium purple, very clean, with feathered edge.

46. Heavy purple. The edge hardly plated enough.

33. Clear, heavy-edged, bright rosy purple. White beautifully pure. Very likely to make a first-class flower.

33, 35, and 36 are our favourites.

The specimen perennials, in a letter from Falkirk, were much crushed. No. 1 is a campanula, but, in its mutilated state, unknown. 2. Tradescanthia Virginica, or Virginian spiderwort. 3. Clematis vitacella. 4. Rose campion, or corn cockle. 5. Aconitum versicolor.

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W. H.—The petal of *Bromfield's Mrs. Bromfield* tulip, a black feather, on a white ground, is very prettily marked. Of course we can only suppose that it is of good form, and pure both in base and stamens. If so, it is a decided acquisition.

Harrison's Fellon Hero.—In better state than we have ever seen it before. A heavy feathered bizarre. The edge nearly black. The outside appears paler than the interior, which is a defect.

No. 23. We cannot tell from a dried petal. It looks like Black Diamond.

PANSIES.—*Mr. Baylis*, a large finely-formed yellow ground flower. Will do. *Sarah*, a large, purple-belted flower. The marginal colour is rather roughly laid on, which gives it a coarse appearance.

J. W. T.—The seedlings sent are no beat on the parents. In fact, the selfs from Duke of Perth are by no means so good as that flower.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE NOTTINGHAM ARBORETUM EXHIBITIONS.

WE are sorry to hear that these exhibitions are likely to be discontinued; for we think they were calculated to do much good, and to afford a great amount of gratification to a number of people. We understand that considerable loss was sustained on more than one occasion, owing to unfavourable weather. This, coupled with a paucity of exhibiters, has brought about a catastrophe which we are sure every one must deplore. Our beautiful arboretum is a place above all others adapted for floral fetes, and we think we can point out a plan by which these exhibitions may be continued, to the interest of all parties concerned. There have been, whilst these exhibitions have been held, two interests, and perhaps there may have been a little jealousy on either part. We say *perhaps*. Now suppose these interests were united,

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we should imagine that a strong coalition would be formed, by which splendid exhibitions would be got up, worthy of the town as well as the arboretum. Our plan would be, an arrangement to be made between the old-established society, which, for years, has afforded from three to four exhibitions during the season, and the arboretum committee, for two out of the four shows to be held in the arboretum,—the committee finding the marquee and a band of music, and the Nottingham Horticultural Society to be at every other expense and trouble. The subscribers to the arboretum and the members of the Horticultural Society would, of course, be admitted free, and whatever money was taken at the gates, from non-subscribers, should be handed over to the secretary of the society, for the payment of the extra expenses, and for the extra prizes, which should, on these special occasions, be considerably increased. In fact, we think, on these occasions, it would be well to have a certain prize to be contended for by all England. At the first exhibition, it might be for a collection of plants, but then large pots cannot well be brought a long way. It might be roses, or some flower that will travel well; and the last exhibition might be a national dahlia and hollyhock show, with all other flowers and fruits in season. This would be a grand affair. There is another feature which we think has been too much overlooked. We mean prizes to be given to artizans and small garden holders. This class, we think, ought to be liberally encouraged; for when we consider the great number of persons who occupy their leisure in cultivating the numerous small gardens in this neighbourhood, we may naturally suppose that some of them, if not thus beneficially employed, would be in mischief; and if so, more police and more borough expenses would be entailed. Then we think that the thousands of gardens round Nottingham are a blessing, and a safety valve to the public at large. Very many of these gardens belong to the corporation of Notting-

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ham, and we think, taking everything into consideration, that if proper representations were made to the mayor and council, a sum would be given for the express purpose of encouraging their own tenants to cultivate their small holdings in such a manner as to be enabled to contend with all comers. Perhaps we are taking too sanguine a view of the case; but if public money could not consistently be devoted to such a use, we are sure that the influential inhabitants of the town would gladly subscribe a handsome sum for so laudable a purpose. Much indeed should we like to see the labours of the artizan and mechanic thus encouraged. What emulation there would be! and the feeling would spread through each competitor's family;—the wife would share in the anxiety, and the little ones too would only be too happy to see their father gain a prize by the produce from their "OWN GARDEN." Thus giving them a taste for horticultural pursuits, the ultimate benefit of which it is impossible to foresee. We think, then, if these exhibitions were united, and dealers, amateurs, and artizans and small holders were to contend in separate classes, no jealous feelings would arise, and we should soon have to announce in our pages that Nottingham had resumed its position in the floral world.

Some of these observations will, no doubt, be applicable to other towns besides Nottingham. If there are divided floral interests, the sooner they are united the better. If the labouring population, whether agricultural or manufacturing, are not encouraged in horticultural pursuits, we would advise their richer neighbours to look to it instantly; for more good will accrue from it than they possibly have any conception of.

GOLDEN RULES FOR GARDENERS.—Never allow weeds to bloom; it is the worst proof of thoughtlessness. One day devoted this year will save a month's application next.—Never remove a plant from one place till you are ready to put it in another, unless

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to get rid of it.—Whenever a plant suffers a loss of root, always prune off a corresponding portion of the head.—Never trample on the ground in wet weather, or while the ground is swampy; rather delay the work. Even planting out things is better as the ground dries a little.—When you water, drench the ground all over. One soaking a week is better than partial watering every day.

REVIEWS.

THE GARDENER'S RECORD. Edited by Mr. J. T. Neville. *London: Groombridge & Sons.*

THE principal articles in this interesting periodical are,—On showing the Verbena. We quite agree with the writer, that it is a bad plan to show verbenas in bunches. When thus tied together, they crush and crowd each other, and certainly their beauty is not seen. In single trusses most assuredly is the best way of exhibiting them. Another article, On watering Plants, may be read to advantage. An extract from the *Garden Companion*, The Culture of the Sikkim Rhododendrons, is good. This is followed by Mr. Slater's Descriptive Catalogue of Tulips. Here are several of Mr. Goldham's tulips, which are highly spoken of. Lord Byron, flamed byblœmen; Napoleon, Sir Robert Peel, and Charles Kemble, feathered byblœmens; Fortunatus, feathered bizarre; and Juliet, flamed rose. Norman's Mrs. Norman, a feathered byblœmen, is said to be one of the finest in cultivation.

GLENNY'S QUARTERLY REVIEW

OPENS with 'an article—Is the Tulip to decline in England?—in which the editor remarks on the uncertainty of this noble flower, pointing out several instances where soil and situation have a powerful

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effect on its character. Allusion is also made to the confusion which exists amongst tulips, broken from the same breeder, by different parties. We hope, however, that this evil is now in a great measure rectified; for as prizes are given for breeders, the raiser names them before letting them out, and these names they retain of course, with whoever they may break. Then we have a paper entitled The Gardener *v.* the Butler, in which there is a good deal of truth, though we trust the picture of the latter is not a fair sample. "The Combination against Amateur Gardeners and Respectable Nurserymen," is a hit at the National. Langelier's Catalogue of Pears follows; Farming for the Million—The Breeding of Fish, &c. One of the most useful articles, to our mind, is a short one, entitled Lessons on Landscape Gardening. We extract it, to show the style of this portion of the work.

"The art of landscape gardening is the art of imitating nature; and as we find lovely spots which delight the senses, splendid views, beautiful hills and dales, rocks, wood, and water, our business is to bring as many of these beautiful features together as are consistent with the space we have to occupy, and the means at command. As nature rarely gives us a straight road, or a square piece of water, or a geometrically squared rock, there must be nothing of the kind introduced; and as we have to begin our work at the mansion with nothing but straight lines and square sides, and perhaps a terrace, the principal object is to manage well the transition from the architectural and geometrical portions adjoining the residence to the pure landscape beyond. It is perfectly in order to view the landscape from the house, or the formal part of the garden next it; but the formal portion must not be seen from the landscape. Judicious rising ground and planting come to our aid, and the proper disposal of them is everything. A portion of the ground next the mansion may be squared off, and should be laid out in a style to suit

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the building. The planting beyond this should be in clumps, so disposed as to conceal the geometrical portion until we come upon it. There should be only partial views of the residence, and no sight of the flower garden, all along the approach. There should be no turn in a road without a cause; and if there be no real one, we must make one, by planting a clump of trees, or a specimen tree, or raising a mound. In the early part of the first volume of the *Quarterly Review of Horticulture*, there is a notice of a work on this subject; and we can refer to it as a good lesson; but it is all stuff to say that landscape gardening cannot be reduced to principles, because we could lay down a good many very safe and sound principles ourselves; for instance:—Never make a straight road. Never have a straight line to ornamental water. Avoid planting trees in a row. Wherever there is a bend in the road, plant some trees or shrubs, or put some other obstacle to its going on in a direct line. Let the grass portion of the scene be void of all lumps and holes; no matter whether rising ground or level, let the surface be even. If there be water, so dispose the ground that the edge be down level with it,—a gradual sloping of the land to the level of the water being essential. Avoid angles. Let all curves be graceful. The outline of water should be broken, and canals with parallel sides are inadmissible. Widened into a lake, or curving it like a river of various widths, are operations indispensable; but we shall give more of this hereafter."

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

As the proper time for planting out pansies, to bloom early next spring, is approaching, may I ask you what kinds you would recommend me to plant together, for the purpose of

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obtaining good seed, being desirous of raising some new and good kinds, and having a most excellent situation for the purpose? J. B.

Of yellow grounds, take Aristides, Charles Turner, Monarch, Duke of Norfolk, Sultan, Egnon. Of white grounds, Marchioness of Bath, Miss Talbot, National, Queen of England, Catherine, Hayes. Dark selfs, Duke of Sutherland, Flower of the Day, Neilson's Magnificent. Light selfs, Dido, Blanche. Yellow selfs, Ophir, Model, Yellow Standard.

Being about to erect a small greenhouse, for the purpose of growing geraniums, calceolarias, roses, &c. I wish to know your views touching the desirability of using Hartley's rough plate glass for the *top slides*. Do you suppose the non-transparency of Hartley's glass will have a tendency to *draw* the plants, or does it retain heat longer than ordinary glass? I am afraid that in this town, where we are sometimes enveloped in smoke, the glass in question, combined with the gloomy state of the atmosphere, may have the effect already described, which, of course, I am desirous of avoiding, if possible.

Bradford. A SUBSCRIBER.

For your locality, we should certainly give preference to crown glass, cut a good size.

I shall be obliged by your answering the following query in your next number. A is a florist who grows for sale. B an amateur. Both in the habit of showing at our exhibitions. A grows a great many seedlings, and sends B some of them to bloom for him *(before they are let out)*, and B is in the constant habit of showing from these seedlings. Now I want to know whether this practice is right, as our rules express that *all productions shall be* bona fide *the property of the exhibiter*, who shall have had them in possession from the time of planting, or for the previous three months, and he is required to sign a declaration to that effect. A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.

It is, most assuredly, wrong. We suppose that if B bloomed one of A's seedlings, and took a premier prize with it, A would take the stock and let it out in his own name, of course keeping the money so obtained. Then how can B conscientiously sign a declaration that the seedlings are his own property? Exhibiters' own good sense ought to tell them that such proceedings are highly improper, and calculated to injure the cause they profess to serve. Here, flowers shown for prizes are obliged to be grown in the exhibiter's own garden, unless he has obtained permission from the society to grow them elsewhere.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF YORK FLORISTS.

At Monkman and Aldrich's Hotel, Collier-gate, May 23.

Judges.—Messrs. Dobbings and Rhodes, Leeds, with Wood and Land, York. Premier Prizes.—Best feathered flower, Heroine, Cowper. Best flamed flower, Surpass Salvator Rosa, Hepton. Best Breeder, Juliet, Willison, Whitby.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Cowper
2 Heroine, Hepton
3 Lady Douro, ditto
4 Heroine, Cowper
5 Ditto, ditto

Dark Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., Hepton
2 Charles X., Willison
3 Willison's King, ditto
4 Catafalque Superior, Bell
5 Catafalque Superior, Pearson

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Baguct, Cowper
2 Lawrence's Friend, Crummock
3 Baguet, Parker
4 Baguet, Hepton
5 Baguet, Bell

Red Feathered Bizarres.

1 Scotii, Hepton
2 Charles X., ditto
3 Scotii, ditto
4 Plutus, Burnett
5 Ditto, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, Burnett
2 Triomphe Royale, Hepton
3 Triomphe Royale, Burnett
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Ditto, ditto

Dark Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, Burnett
2 Sanzio, Pearson
3 Polyphemus, Burnett
4 Sanzio, Hepton
5 Ditto, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Surpass Salvator Rosa, Hepton
2 Purple Perfection, Snow
3 Princess Royal, Hepton
4 Baguet, Burnett
5 Madonna, Hepton

Red Flamed Bizarres.

1 Pilot, Hepton
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Cyclops, ditto
4 Pilot, ditto
5 Ditto, ditto

Selfs.

1 Willison's Purity, Willison
2 Min d'Or, Pearson
3 Min d'Or, Hepton
4 Min d'Or, Crummock
5 Min d'Or, Parker

Rose Breeders.

1 Juliet, Willison
2 Juliet, Cowper
3 Catherine, Hepton
4 Seedling, Willison
5 Catherine, Pearson

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Maid of Orleans, Hepton
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Madonna, ditto
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Maid of Orleans, Cowper

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Pilot, Hepton
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Seedling, Burnett
4 Duke of Devonshire, Pearson
5 Earl Randon, Hepton

Citron, or Tricoloured.

1 Duke of Clarence, Hepton
2 Lord Munster, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 William Barron, ditto

Flame without Feather.

1 Holmes's King, Steward
2 Holmes's King, Hepton
3 Slater's Naomi, ditto
4 Holmes's King, ditto
5 Ditto, ditto

JOHN LOWE'S TULIP MEETING.

At the Millstone, Chapel-street, Bedford, May 23.

Subscription Pans.—1. Charles X., Lustre, Bienfait, Bienfait, Heroine, and Unique, R. Prescott. 2. Charles X., Lustre, Mango, Siam, Bronte, and Unique, J. Leather. 3. Charles X., Lustre, Bienfait, Bienfait, Heroine, and Unique, R. Ratcliffe. 4. Charles X., Lustre, Mango, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Unique, J. Tyldsley. 5. Charles X., Lustre, Mango, unknown, Bronte, and Unique, P. Rosbotham. 6. Charles X., Surpass Lacantique, La Belle Narene, Wallers, Bronte, and Vesta, R. Yates.

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Maiden Pans.—1. Charles X., Surpass Lacantique, La Belle Narene, Wallers, Magnum Bonum, and Vesta, R. Yates. 2. Charles X., Trafalgar, Duc de Savoy, Bronte, Mango, and La Belle Narene, W. Charlston.

Premier Pans.—Charles X., Lustre, Mango, Siam, Village Maid, and Unique, J. Leather. 2. Charles X., Lustre, Bienfait, Siam, Lady Crewe, and Unique, Josh. Leather. 3. Charles X., George IV., Mango, La Belle Narene, Bronte, Unique, J. Rigby. 4. Charles X., Lustre, Mango, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Unique, J. Tyldsley. 5. Charles X., Lustre, Washington, Magnus, Comte, and Unique, J. Thompson. 6. Charles X., Lustre, Mango, unknown, Bronte, and Unique, P. Rosbotham. 7. Crown Prince, Lustre, Mango, Wallers, Bronte, and Unique, J. Hindley. 8. Crown Prince, Lustre, La Belle Narene, Bienfait, Heroine, and Unique, W. Belshaw.

Best flower in the room, Charles X., R. Prescott.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., Josh. Leather
2 Seedling, J. Mort
3 Lord Lilford, ditto
4 Crown Prince, J. Tyldsley
5 Magnum Bonum, ditto
6 Surpass Catafalque, J. Leather
7 Trafalgar, J. Rigby
8 Seedling, J. Hindley

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Surpass Lacantique, J. Bromilow
2 Lustre, P. Rosbotham
3 George IV., G. Leather
4 Polyphemus, P. Rosbotham
5 San Joe, J. Bromilow
6 Albion, J. Tyldsley
7 Duke of Leeds, P. Rosbotham
8 Unknown, J. Lowe

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Washington, Josh. Leather
2 Mango, J. Leather
3 Bienfait, J. Hindley
4 Baguet, J. Lowe
5 La Belle Narene, J. Mort
6 Violet Winner, J. Bromilow
7 Lancashire Hero, P. Rosbotham
8 Seedling, R. Yates

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Siam, J. Leather
2 Wallers, J. Rigby
3 Bienfait, Josh. Leather
4 Wirtemburgh, J. Bromilow
5 La Belle Narene, J. Mort
6 A Fond Noir, J. Rigby
7 Charlotte, J. Leather
8 Adelaide, J. Turner

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, J. Tyldsley
2 Village Maid, J. Leather
3 Heroine, J. Bromilow
4 Comte, P. Rosbotham
5 Andromeda, J. Hindley
6 Bronte, R. Yates
7 Walworth, J. Turner
8 Seedling, J. Thompson

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, J. Leather
2 Vesta, R. Yates
3 Ponceau, J. Bomilow
4 Lady Lilford, P. Rosbotham
5 Guerrier, J. Rigby
6 Lady Crewe, J. Bromilow
7 Lady Leicester, J. Mort
8 Rose Ann, Josh. Leather

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Captain Sleigh, P. Rosbotham
2 Duke of Hamilton, J. Tyldsley
3 Polyphemus, Josh. Leather
4 Dutch Catafalque, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Maid of Athens, J. Mort
2 Unknown, P. Rosbotham
3 Godet Parfait, Josh. Leather
4 Lady Flora Hastings, J. Mort

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Lilford, Josh. Leather
2 Catherina, J. Mort
3 Village Maid, W. Belshaw
4 Seedling, P. Rosbotham

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Turner
2 White Flag, Josh. Leather

MANCHESTER AND SOUTH LANCASHIRE TULIP SOCIETY.

First Exhibition, at Belle Vue, May 24.

A silver cup, value five pounds, for the best pan of six rectified tulips, was won by Mr. R. Dixon, with Royal Sovereign, San Joe, Chellaston Beauty, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Aglaia. The second prize, value three pounds, was awarded to Mr. Nunnerley, for Old Dutch Catafaique, San Joe, Lord Denman, Bacchus, Lady Crewe, and Triomphe Royale.

The prize for the best pan of breeders was won by Mr. Nunnerley, with Pilot, Miss Forest, and Lord Derby.

Best Rectified Seedling in each Class.—Feathered bizarre, Mayor of Macclesfield, Bromiley. Flamed bizarre, Oswald, Dunderdale. Feathered byblœmen, Admiral Dundas, Faulkner. Flamed byblœmen, Don Giovanni, Slater. Feathered rose, Rhea Sylvia, Dixon. Flamed Rose, St. Rosalie, Slater.

A certificate of merit, of the second class, was awarded to Mr. Slater, for his seedling, St. Rosalie.

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Feathered Bizarres.

1 Royal Sovereign, Dixon
2 Magnum Bonum, Hardy
3 Surpass Catafalque, Nunnerley
4 Lord Lilford, Hollingworth
5 Catafalque superior, ditto
6 San Joe, Hinscliffe
7 Colonel Dundas, Appleton
8 Henry (seedling), Hinscliffe

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, Hinscliffe
2 Old Dutch Catafalque, Nunnerley
3 Polyphemus, Appleton
4 Charbonnier, Faulkner
5 Pilot, Ackerley
6 Marcellus, Nunnerley
7 Fireaway, Hinscliffe
8 Don Cossack, Hardy

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Sable Monarch, Hardy
2 Baguet, ditto
3 Britannia, Dixon
4 Unknown, Aimson
5 Lewold, Hardy
6 Lancashire Hero, Barlow
7 Abassador, Nunnerley
8 Louis XVI., Bromiley

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Prince Albert, Hardy
2 Incomparable, Thorniley
3 Queen Charlotte, Ackerley
4 Lord Denman, Hardy
5 Atlas, Thorniley
6 Baguet Primo, Faulkner
7 Van Amburgh, Hardy
8 Maid of Orleans, ditto

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Hardy
2 Comte de Vergennes, Hinscliffe
3 Lady Crewe, Dixon
4 Aglaia, Hardy
5 Bion, Dixon
6 Mrs Dixon, ditto
7 Queen Eleanor, ditto
8 Monument, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Elegans, Thorniley
2 Triomphe Royale, Ackerley
3 La Vandicken, Hardy
4 Aglaia, Dixon
5 Manteau Ducale, Hinscliffe
6 Rose Guerrier, Hardy
7 Lady Leicester, Dixon
8 Thalestris, Bromiley

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Star, I. Peacock
2 Duke of Kent, Ashmole
3 Seedling, ditto
4 Charbonnier, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Duchess of Sutherland, Hardy
2 Sancta Sophia, Barlow
3 Van Amburgh, Hardy
4 Origen, Slater

Rose Breeders.

1 Lord Derby, Hardy
2 Lady Stanley, Peacock
3 Rose Celestial (seedling), Barlow
4 Village Maid, Bromiley

Second Exhibition, at the Botanic Gardens, May 30.

A silver cup, value five pounds, for the best pan of six rectified tulips, was won by Mr. S. Bromiley, with Charles X., Old Dutch Catafalque, Guido, Grace Darling, Heroine, and Aglaia. The second prize, value three pounds, was awarded to Mr. Dixon, for Royal Sovereign, San Joe, Baguet, Sarah Ann, Bion, and Heroine.

The prize for the best pan of breeders was won by Mr. S. Bromiley, with Charbonnier, Lord Derby, and Britannia.

Best Rectified Seedling in each Class.—Feathered bizarre, Duke of Kent, Ashmole. Flamed bizarre, Ajax, Hardy. Feathered byblœmen, King Robert Bruce, Hardy. Flamed byblœmen, Blue Bonnet, Hinscliffe. Feathered rose, Rose Celestial, Barlow. Flamed rose, Rose Celestial, Barlow.

A certificate of merit, of the first class, was awarded to Mr. Hardy, for Lightbody's seedling, King Robert Bruce. A certificate of merit, of the second class, was awarded to Mr. Barlow, for seedling Rose Celestial.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., Ashmole
2 Lord Lilford, Bromiley
3 Sir Sidney Smith, Nunnerley
4 Surpass Catafalque, Ashmole
5 Surpass Optimus, Dixon
6 Elizabeth, Bromiley
7 Nourri Effendi, Thorniley
8 Earl of Richmond, Dixon

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, Nunnerley
2 Ajax, Hardy
3 Captain White, Hinscliffe
4 Charles X., Dixon
5 Pilot, Ackerley
6 Shakspere, Hardy
7 Rufus, Thorniley
8 Caliph, Hardy

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Guido, Bromiley
2 Sable Monarch, Hardy
3 Gavazzi, Bromiley
4 Chellaston Beauty, Hardy
5 Louis XVI., Bromiley
6 Baguet, Dixon
7 King Robert Bruce. Hardy
8 Surpassant, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Beauty of the Plain, Hardy
2 Sarah Ann, ditto
3 Lord Denman, ditto
4 Maid of Orleans, ditto

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5 Lowold, Hardy
6 Democrat, ditto
7 Bacchus, Ashmole
8 Maid of Falaise, Dixon

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, Barlow
2 Bion, Smith
3 Lady Crewe, Ashmole
4 Monument, Dixon
5 Madame Vestris, Hinscliffe
6 Countess of Sutherland, Bromiley
7 Comte de Vergennes, Hinscliffe
8 Anastasia, Nunneley

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, Nunneley
2 Aglaia, Hinscliffe
3 La Vandicken, Bromiley
4 Rose Quarto, Dixon
5 Rose Elegans, Thorniley
6 Walmsley's Princess Royal, Dixon
7 Rose Celestial, Dixon
8 Lady Catherine Gordon, Bromiley

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Pilot, Nunnerley
2 Old Dutch Catafalque, Ashmole
3 King, Bromiley
4 Duke of Kent, ditto

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Miss Forrest, Nunnerley
2 Queen, Bromiley
3 Maid of Orleans, ditto
4 Van Amburgh, ditto

Rose Breeders.

1 Rosy Queen, Bromiley
2 Juliet, ditto
3 Lord Derby, ditto
4 Arlette, ditto

NOTTINGHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the Exchange Rooms, May 24.

TULIPS.

Twelve Distinct Blooms.—1. Royal Sovereign, Pilot, Heroine, Camillus, Baguet, Queen Charlotte, Magnum Bonum, Captain White, Aglaia (feathered), Triomphe Royale, Anna Maria, and Princess Royal, T. Gibson. 2. Victory, Captain White, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Catafalque, Eliza, Chieftain, Magnum Bonum, Violet le Grand, Princess Royal, Pilot, and Aglaia, J. Hedderley. 3. Sovereign, Abercromby, Sphinx, Truth, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Mountain Sylph, Midland Beauty, Princess Royal, Queen Charlotte, Violet Alexander, and Rosa Blanca, J. Brown. 4. Surpass Optimus, Strong's Sir Robert Peel, Mrs. Lymberry, Nepaulese Princess, Lavinia, Aglaia, Triomphe Royale, Magnum Bonum, Polyphemus, Captain White, Royal Sovereign, Princess Royal, R. W. Lymberry. 5. Victory, Captain White, Royal Sovereign, Heroine, Triomphe Royale, Magnum Bonum, Black Baguet, Aglaia, Pilot, Polyphemus, Queen Charlotte, and Triomphe Royale, J. Hardy. 6. Royal Sovereign, Magnum Bonum, Pilot, Triomphe Royale (feathered), Monument, Lady Scott, Captain White, Queen Charlotte, Black Baguet, Triomphe Royale, Rose Aglaia, and Polyphemus, J. Ward. 7. Triomphe Royale, Mrs. Clarke, Rose Aglaia, Rose Camillus, Princess Royal, Black Baguet, Lillard, Roi de Laume, Polyphemus, Director, Pilot, Surpass Catafalque, I. Clarke. 8. Royal Sovereign, Pilot, Dutch Catafalque, Duke of Devonshire, Nymph, Rose Aglaia, Triomphe Royale, Lady Leicester, Norwich Baguet, Princess Royal, Queen Charlotte, and Celymene (seedling), J. Spencer.

Wednesday, July 26.

CARNATIONS.

Twelve Dissimilar Blooms.—1. Admiral Curzon, Hardwick's Firebrand, Milward's Premier, May's Poor Tom, Beauty of Woodhouse, Oliver Goldsmith, Companion, Ely's Lord Milton, Squire Trow, Flora's Garland, Lord Lewisham, and Ely's Lovely Ann, S. Eyre. 2. Milton, Curzon, Squire Meynell, Hale's Prince Albert, Firebrand, Queen of Purples, Duncan, Squire Trow, Gameboy, unknown, Byron, and Simpson's Queen, J. Taylor.

PICOTEES.

Twelve Distinct Blooms.—1. Bailey's Duke of Devonshire, Giulio Romano, Lord Nelson, May's Rosalind, Robinson's Elizabeth, Ganymede, May's Prince Arthur, Diadem, May's Nerissa, May's Ophelia, Mr. Trahar, and Marris's Unexpected, S. Eyre. 2. Mr. Bevan, Duke of Devonshire, Mary, Prince of Wales, Lord Nelson, Mrs. Norman, seedling, Ely's Favourite, Jeanette, Gem, Mrs. Harwood, and Ganymede, J. Taylor.

DAHLIAS.

Best Pan of Twelve.—Amazon, Jeaune de Passy, Miss Ward, Bob, Edmund Forster, seedling, Comte de Chambord, Julian, Triumphant, seedling, Miss Pope, and Mrs. Hansard, S. Taylor.

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LEICESTER SOCIETY OF AMATEUR FLORISTS,

At the Wiclife Rooms, Leicester, May 24.

TULIPS.

Pans of Six.—1. Baguet, Captain White, Superb en Noir, Magnum, Lady Stanley, and Comte de Vergennes, J. D. Hextall. 2. Baguet, Feathered Triomphe Royale, Lady Stanley, seedling (feathered bizarre), Antagonst (seedling, flamed bizarre), and Princess Royale, R. Marris. 3. Hero of the Nile, Magnum, Captain White, Princess Royal, Sancta Sophia, and Lady Stanley, G. Hudson. 4. Fame, Triomphe Royale, Catafalque Superior, unknown, Violet Alexander, and Pilot, W. Mitchell. 5. Pilot, Ambassador, Comte de Vergennes, Belladonna, Sovereign, and Triomphe Royale, F. W. Hollyoake.

Pans of Three.—1. Platoff, Triomphe Royale, and Baguet, J. D. Hextall. 2. Pilot, Princess Royal, and Lady Stanley, R. Marris. 3. Polyphemus, Lady Denman, and La Tendresse, F. W. Hollyoake. 4. Hero of the Nile, Magnum, and La Bien Amie, G. Hudson. 5. General Loftus, Catafalque Superior, and Magnum, W. Mitchell.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Catafalque Superior, J. D. Hextall
2 Magnum, G. Hudson
3 Old Dutch Catafalque, J. D. Hextall
4 Magnum, G. Hudson
5 Victory, ditto
6 Duke of Devonshire, R. Marris
7 Mganum, G. Hudson
8 Catafalque Superior, ditto
9 Sovereign, ditto
10 Magnum, W. Mitchell

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Pilot, R. Marris
2 Polyphemus, ditto
3 Pilot, F. W. Hollyoake
4 Kirke White (seedling), R. Marris
5 Polyphemus, W. Mitchell
6 Polyphemus, F. W. Hollyoake
7 Polyphemus, R. Marris
8 Polyphemus, J. D. Hextall
9 Pilot, F. W. Hollyoake
10 Polyphemus, W. Mitchell

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Lady Denman, R. Marris
2 Grace Darling, J. D. Hextall
3 Princess Royal, R. Marris
4 Lawrence's Friend, J. D. Hextall
5 Prince Albert, G. Hudson
6 Duchess of Sutherland, R. Marris
7 Sancta Sophia, G. Hudson
8 Seedling, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Maid of Orleans, J. D. Hextall
2 Alexander Magnus, ditto
3 Maid of Orleans, F. W. Hollyoake
4 Duchess of Sutherland
5 Cleopatra, R. Marris
6 Smith's Earl Talbot, J. D. Hextall
7 Maid of Orleans, W. Mitchell
8 Baguet Noir, J. D Hextall
9 Princess Royal, G. Hudson
10 Violet Grand Turk, J. D. Hextall

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Stanley, J. D. Hextall
2 Lady Stanley, G. Hudson
3 Triomphe Royale, R. Marris
4 Dolittle, W. Mitchell
5 Anastasia, R. Marris
6 Ne plus ultra, J. D. Hextall
7 Walworth, W. Mitchell
8 Baguet Primo, J. D. Hextall
9 Mason's Matilda, R. Marris
10 Baguet di Riguat, J. D. Hextall

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, J. D. Hextall
2 Aglaia, ditto
3 Smith's No. 60, ditto
4 Triomphe Royale, ditto
5 Aglaia, R. Marris
6 Lavinia, J. D. Hextall
7 Aglaia, W. Mitchell
8 Lady Denman, ditto

LIVERPOOL TULIP SHOW.

May 25.

Pans.—1 Spalding Bizarre, Sanzio, Baguet, Queen Charlotte, Comte, and Madame Gazalier, J. Whittingham. 2. Spalding Bizarre, Catafalque Superior, Baguet, Violet Wallers, Comte, and La Vandicken, J. Whittingham. 3. Lord Milton, Charles X., Bienfait, Catherine, Lady Crewe, and Dixon's Bion, J. Morris. 4. Catafalque Superior, Polyphemus, Baguet, Bienfait, Heroine, and Lord Hill, J. Winward.

Pan of Breeders.—Duke of Devonshire, Prince Albert, and No. 12, J. Morris.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., J. Winward
2 Waterloo, J. Morris
3 Lord Melbourne, ditto
4 Lord Lindley (seedling), ditto
5 Surpass Catafalque, T. Yates
6 Unknown, J. Whittingham.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Sanzio, J. Whittingham
2 Cossack (seedling), J. Morris
3 George IV., J. Winward
4 Unknown, J. Whittingham

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Baguet, J. Winward

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2 Buckley's Beauty
3 Unknown, H. Yates
4 Lancashire Hero, J. Winward
5 Beaute Parfait, H. Yates
6 Mango, J. Winward

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Lancashire Hero, J. Whittingham
2 Magnus, J. Morris
3 Premier Noble, J. Winward
4 Unknown, J. Whittingham
5 Louis XVI., J. Winward
6 Sportsman, ditto

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, J. Morris
2 Heroine, J. Winward
3 Walworth, H. Yates
4 Hero of the Nile, J. Winward
5 Comte, H. Yates
6 Village Maid, J. Winward

Flamed Roses.

1 Unknown, J. Whittingham
2 Camillus, J. Morris
3 Unique, ditto
4 Vesta, J. Whittingham
5 Andromeda, J. Morris
6 Walworth, ditto

Breeders.

1 Duke of Kent, J. Morris
2 Sancta Sophia, ditto
3 No. 8, ditto

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Winward
2 White Flag, J. Whittingham

TULIP SHOW.

At the House of Mr. T. Hollins, Boothen, May 27.

Pans.—1. Charles X., Catafalque, Maid of Orleans, Lord Denman, Heroine and Aglaia, T. Cooper. 2. Rising Sun, Charlee X., Violet Alexander, Duchess de Modena, Amelia, and Triomphe Royale, A. Hollinshead. 3. Magnum, Catafalque, Orleans, Lord Denman, Walworth, Aglaia, A. Shaw. 4. Charles X., Charles X., Orleans, Prince Elie, Heroine, and Aglaia, E. Poulson. 5. Rising Sun, Catafalque, unknown, Violet Wallers, Comte, and Aglaia, W. Emony. 6. Catafalque, Catafalque, Baguet, Princess Royal, Walworth, Aglaia, T. Hollins.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X,, A. Hollinshead
2 Rising Sun, ditto
3 Magnum, A. Shaw
4 Catafalque, ditto
5 Isabella, E. Poulson
6 Rufus, T. Cooper

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Rufus, A. Shaw
2 Charles X., A, Holliushead
3 Nelson, A. Shaw
4 Pilot, ditto
5 Catafalque, ditto
6 Negress, ditto

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Comte de Flanders, E. Poulson
2 Orleans, T, Cooper
3 Gibbons, W. Emony
4 Grotius, A. Shaw
5 Gibbons, E. Poulson
6 Tout, A. Shaw

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Prince Albert, A. Shaw
2 Prince Elie, ditto
3 Lord Denman, A. Hollinshead
4 Sang de Beuf, E. Poulson
5 Princess Royal, A. Shaw
6 Ditto ditto

Feathered Roses.

1 Amelia, A. Hollinshead
2 Heroine, A. Shaw
3 Andromeda, E. Poulson
4 Comte, W. Emony
5 Triomphe Royale, A. Hollinshead
6 Claudiana, A. Poulson

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, A. Hollinshead
2 Triomphe Royale, T. Cooper
3 Aglaia, A. Shaw
4 Unknown, A. Hollinshead
5 Mary Ann, T. Cooper
6 Camillus, ditto

TULIP SHOW.

At the Lomax Arms, Great Harwood, May 27.

Extra Premier Prize.—Charles X., T. Chippendale.

Charles X., R. Birtwistle, kettle
Lustre, R. Houseman, ditto
Bienfait, E. Hodgson, ditto
Queen Charlotte, J. Baron, ditto
Lady Middleton, T. Gibson, ditto
Gibbons, A. Bentley, ditto

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., T. Gibson
2 Royton Hero, T. Chippendale
3 Waterloo, ditto
4 Trafalgar, R. Birtwistle
5 Devonshire, R. Houseman
6 Polyphemus, T. Gibson
7 Catafalque, A. Bentley

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, T. Chippendale
2 Pilot ditto
3 Lustre, R. Birtwistle
4 Charbonnier, T. Chippendale
5 Charles X., ditto
6 Paganini, ditto
7 Devonshire, R. Houseman

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Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, T. Chippendale
2 Gibbons, ditto
3 Washington, R. Birtwistle
4 Mango, ditto
5 Giganteum, E. Hodgson
6 Beauty, R Houseman
7 Winner, E. Hodgson
Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Lancashire Hero, T. Chippendale
2 Giganteum, ditto
3 Narene, R. Birtwistle
4 Bienfait, R. Houseman
5 Ceiterion, E. Hodgson
6 Barneveldt, T. Chippendale
7 Raven, ditto
Feathered Roses.
1 Comte, E. Hodgson
2 Lady Middleton, R. Birtwistle
3 Newcastle, E. Hodgson
4 Lewold, T. Chippendnle
5 Seedling, ditto
6 La Belle Nannette, T. Gibson
7 Hero, E. Hodgson
Flamed Roses.
1 Aglaia, R. Birtwistle
2 Rose Vesta, ditto
3 Lady Crewe, T. Chippendale
4 Rose Unique, R. Birtwistle
5 Lady Stanley, T. Chippendale
6 Vainqueur, T. Gibson
7 Du Roi. R. Houseman
Breeders.
Prime Minister (biz.), T. Chippendale
Sir C. Napier (byb.), seedling, ditto
Seedling (rose), R. Birtwistle
Selfs.
White Perfection, T. Chippendale
Min d'Or, T. Gibson

LEVENSHULME TULIP SHOW.

At the House of Mr. J. Williamson, Jolly Carter, May 27.

Judges.—Messrs. Joseph Clegg, James Boardman, and Thomas Green.
Maiden Kettle.—Heroine and Lacantique, L. Robinson.
1st Kettle. Lord Lilford and Lustre, A. Tomlinson. 2nd. Magnum Bonum and Lustre, I. Knott. 3rd. Heroine and Lacantique, L. Robinson. 4th. Heroine and Unique, W. Whittaker. 5. Crown Prince and Walker's No. 31, E. Cash. 6th. Heroine and Lustre, E. Winders.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Waterloo, L. Robinson
2 Lord Lilford, W. Whittaker
3 Magnum Bonum, A. Tomlinson
4 Rising Sun, ditto
5 Grande Superbe, W. Whittaker
6 Crown Prince, ditto
7 Duc de Savoy, E. Cash
Flamed Bizarres.
1 Leopold, W. Whittaker
2 Charles X., E. Cash
3 Lustre, A. Tomlinson
4 Lacantique, E. Cash
5 Albion, A. Tomlinson
6 Charbonnier, W. Whittaker
7 Rufus, I. Knott
Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Mango, W. Whittaker
2 Washington, I. Knott
3 Bienfait, W. Whittaker
4 Ambassador, I. Knott
5 Duc de Bordeaux, ditto
6 Lancashire Hero, W. Whittaker
7 La Belle Narene, I. Knott
Flamed Byblœmens.
1 La Belle Emma, I. Knott
2 Duc de Bordeaux, ditto
3 Wallers, ditto
4 Baguet, E. Cash
5 La Belle Narene, W. Whittaker
6 Prince of Wirtemburgh, I. Knott
7 Seedling, L. Robinson
Feathered Roses.
1 Heroine, W. Whittaker
2 Walworth, ditto
3 Newcastle, A. Tomlinson
4 Comte, W. Whittaker
5 Bion, A. Tomlinson
6 Lady Crewe, E. Cash
7 Hero of the Nile, I. Knott
Flamed Roses.
1 Triomphe Royale, A. Tomlinson
2 Aglaia, I. Knott
3 Vesta, A. Tomlinson
4 Walworth, W. Whittaker
5 Lady Crewe, E. Cash
6 Unique, E Tomlinson
7 Lady Stanley, W. Whittaker
Breeders.
Pompe de Funebre (biz.), Whittaker
Gibbons (byb.), E. Cash
Lady Crewe (rose), A. Tomlinson
Selfs.
Min d'Or, W. Whittaker
White Flag, A. Tomlinson

HUNSLET FLORAL SOCIETY.

At Mr. Joseph Ash's, Blooming Rose Inn, Hunslet, near Leeds, May 29.

TULIPS.

Judges.—Mr. James Bramma, New Leeds; Mr. Edward Schofield, Wortley; and Mr. Ducksbery, Farnley, near Leeds.
Premier Bloom.—Rose Aglaia, I. W. Bower.

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Pans.—1. Charles X., Polyphemus, Duc de Bordeaux, Roi de Siam, Rose Aglaia, Rose Aglaia, and Pilot Breeder, I. W. Bower. 2. Napoleon, Donzelli, Baguet, Voerhelm's La Belle Nannette, Tromphe Royale, and Polyphemus Breeder, S. Hartley. 3. Catafalque, San Josef, Britannia, Elegance, Lady Middleton, Triomphe Royale and Min d'Or, I. Fryer.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., I. W. Bower
2 Sovereign, I. Fryer
3 Dutch Catafalque, ditto
4 Surpass Catafalque, ditto
5 Plantagenet, I. W. Bower
6 Sovereign, I. Boshell

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, I. W. Bower
2 Donzelli, S. Hartley
3 Abercromby, G. Wood
4 Polyphemus, I. Boshell
5 San Josef, I. Fryer
6 Polyphemus, T. Moore

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Gibbons's Elegance, S. Hartley
2 Washington, G. Wood
3 Baguet, ditto
4 Reine d'Egypt, I. W. Bower
5 Baguet, S. Hartley
6 Tyso's Trulotte, I. W. Bower

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Roi de Siam, I. W. Bower
2 Voerhelm's Incomparable, S. Hartley
3 Britannia, I. Fryer
4 Baguet, I. W. Bower
5 Sipio Africanus, ditto
6 Alcon, I. Boshell

Feathered Roses.

1 La Belle Nannette, S. Hartley
2 Lady Middleton, I. Fryer
3 Lady Middleton, S. Hartley
4 Lady Crewe, I. Boshell
5 Bettarall's Brilliant, I. Fryer
6 Duchess of Newcastle, I. W. Bower

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Aglaia, I. W. Bower
2 Ditto ditto
3 Triomphe Royale, S. Hartley
4 Triomphe Royale, G. Wood
5 Manteau Ducale, S. Hartley
6 Triomphe Ryale, G. Wood

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Pilot, I. H. Bower
2 Seedling, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Clark, ditto
5 Polyphemus, S. Hartley
6 Clark, I. W. Bower

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Midland Beauty, G. Wood
2 Seedling, I. W. Bower
3 Grace Darling, I. Fryer
4 Prince Albert, ditto
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Grace Darling, ditto

Rose Breeders

1 Seedling, I. W. Bower
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Duchess of Newcastle, I. Boshell
4 Lady Sale, S. Hartley
5 Catherine, I. Boshell
6 Ditto, ditto

Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, I. Fryer
2 Min d'Or, S. Hartley
3 Min d'Or, G. Wood
4 Cotherstone, I. Boshell
5 Min d'Or, G. Wood
6 Min d'Or, I. W. Bower

PINK SHOW.

At Mr. J. Harrison's, Mason's Arms Inn, Middleton, near Manchester, July 10.

Judges.—Messrs. Joseph Taylor, James Heap, and Jonathan Jaques.

Pans.—1. Huntsman (purple-laced), Sturge (red-laced), Snowball (black and white), T. Mellor. 2. Huntsman, Sturge, and Snowball, J. Beswick. 3. Huntsman, Sturge, and Mary, S. Rayer. 4. Huntsman, Susanna, and Mary, T. Lancashire. 5. Mango, Sturge, and Miss Jessop, J. Buckley. 6. Huntsman, Sturge, and Snowball, W. Kent.

Red-laced.

1 Sturge, J. Beswick
2 Susanna, ditto
3 Stockwell, T. Mellor
4 Sir William, W. Kent
5 Bright Star, R. Hope
6 Seedling, H. Howarth
7 Seedling, S. Rayner
8 Dr. Hepworth, J. Clegg

Purple-laced.

1 Glory, T. Lancashire
2 Huntsman, J. Beswick
3 Duke, H. Markland
4 Mango, T. Lancashire
5 Attraction, H. Howarth
6 Suwarrow, J. Lancashire
7 Flying Dutchman, H. Howarth
8 Beauty of Rochdale, T. Mellor

Black and White.

1 Miss Jessop, J. Lancashire
2 Mary, C. Stott
3 Snowball, J. Beswick
4 Fair Flora, C. Stott
5 Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, J. Buckley
6 Seedling, J. Smith
7 Beauty of Home, C. Stott
8 Seedling, J. Smith

The members of the Middleton Pink Society agreed that no seedling pink should be allowed to be staged, unless the whole stock was let out in twenty-one lots.

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

MEMORANDA ON THE NATIONAL CARNATION SHOW AT DERBY.

THIS exhibition was a high treat to all lovers of this splendid tribe of flowers. In fact, carnations, picotees, and hollyhocks were most gloriously brought out. After the report in our last month's number, our notes must necessarily be brief, but we must express our intense gratification at the result, for on no previous occasion, that we are aware of, was a more splendid lot of flowers brought together for competition. There is another matter which renders such meetings highly serviceable and attractive,—the bringing together florists from all parts of the country, who are enabled to see the progress made, and thus the taste is refined, and the onward movement is carried to some of the most outlying districts in the country. Owing to the first day named being found too early for the north, we believe, in deference to the representatives of the florists from that part of the kingdom, the 8th was finally appointed, which enabled those to exhibit who could not otherwise possibly have done so. Amongst the flowers which were especially attractive was Holland's Mr. Ainsworth (shown by Mr. Turner), a superb scarlet bizarre, with pure white, and broad stripes of scarlet and very dark marone. The petals are well rounded and of great substance. We do not think, however, the colours are so bright as in "the Admiral," who, amid all the novelties which spring up around him and endeavour to supplant him in his proud position, still, like the British flag, "braves the battle and the breeze." Mr. Ainsworth, on this occasion, was placed the premier flower, and certainly, in our

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estimation, richly deserved it. There was, however, a diversity of opinion among the judges, some leaning towards May's King John, a splendid rose flake, which really must stand A. 1 in its class. In fact, the merit of these two flowers was nearly equal,—the point in favour of the former, and which turned the scale, being the greater difficulty in obtaining a pure ground in such high-coloured bizarres, a point which Mr. Ainsworth possesses in a remarkable degree. King John is said to be a beat on that noble old flower Flora's Garland, an assertion with which we are disposed to coincide. Another great favourite of ours was Exit, scarlet flake, a brilliant thing in all respects; the white very pure, the ribboning distinct and broad, and fairly balanced; well crowned; indeed the best scarlet flake we have seen this season. Then there was Tybalt, one of the right sort; and our old favourite, Cradley Pet, which, for purity and marking, is highly deserving of extended patronage. Truly it wants a few more petals, and it is in this point that Exit and Tybalt take the precedence. In crimson bizarres, Black Diamond was very fine, and deservedly took a high place. Milton was also good; but we thought the pink and purple bizarres a very washy-looking lot. They appeared as if heavy rain had abstracted their proper colour. We do not think this class will ever become favourites in the midland or northern counties. Old Premier was first in its class. This flower decidedly improves, and, like the Old Admiral, previously noticed, takes a great deal of beating. It certainly is a first-rate purple flake. Royal Purple was good. Holland's Admiral Napier was placed second. In quality, it was an inferior bloom to some Mr. Holland had brought, but they were so much injured as not to be fit to set up, and we do not consider the one placed by any means a fair specimen. We must not forget some fine scarlet bizarres—a trio which have an historical renown—Silistria, Omar Pacha, and Capt. Butler, all promising and beautiful flowers.

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The picotees were the most chaste and beautiful imaginable. Mrs. Hoyle, which, we believe, was first exhibited by Mr. Turner, at York, was very brilliant, and particularly attracted our attention. Sultana is a larger flower, well formed, but not so bright in colour. In heavy roses, another flower of Mr. Hoyle's, named Alice, was good; whilst Dodwell's Kate was distinct, from its beautiful solid margin of pinkish rose. The white of this flower is good, and it will make a fine contrast in a stand. Mrs. Drake and Lady Grenville were also beautiful. In heavy-edged purples there was strong competition, and some beautiful flowers were set up. Alfred, as usual, took a very prominent position; but we think this flower has now found its mate; Mrs. Bayley (Dodwell) being the flower of the season in this class, and, from the specimens seen at the exhibition, and also sent to us, for our opinion, we are induced to pronounce it of first-rate excellence. Capt. Dalgetty is a very promising flower in this class; so is Mrs. Dodwell; whilst that large and brilliant flower, Duke of Devonshire, was, as usual, very attractive, though we think we have seen it better than this season. Little Harry Bertram (No. 44, Dodwell) was a noble variety. In light flowers there was very much to admire, the blooms being especially free from bars, and very beautiful. The premier picotee was Mrs. Barnard, a lovely bloom, belonging to Mr. Steward, of York. It really is astonishing how this flower retains its position, though we have seen a flower this season which we believe will run it hard for the palm of excellence. We allude to Bertha (Marris). Laura, Lizzie, and Minnie (all Dodwell's) are also beautiful new varieties, in the same style, and, will prove acquisitions to the most select collections. In light red flowers, Mrs. Kelk was especially noticeable, and was a gem of the first water; and though, as will be seen by the report, other favourites were placed, this was *the flower* of its class. In light purples, Haidee still holds on a winner. It is well named,—delicate,

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beautiful, and attractive; and Finis (May) is a worthy competitor. Annot Lyle is rather heavier on the margin than the preceding, of fine petal, and very chaste; and Amy Robsart in the same way, but much larger, and a decided acquisition. Yellows were not much in advance of what they were a few years ago, Conrad being the best. We should be glad to find some florists devoting their entire energies to the improvement of this class, it *can* be improved, and *would* pay, there being abundant room for improvement.

The interest excited was immense, and the hollyhocks, which were in the same tent, with their gorgeous colours and immense spikes, gave a treat to the visiters which we are sure they appreciated to the utmost; in fact, the tent was crowded to the last moment. Of hollyhocks, we may name Walden Gem, brilliant crimson; Omar Pacha, straw colour, with chocolate base; Napoleon, purple, white margin; Charles Turner, crimson; Charles Barron, salmon; Sir D. Wedderburn, improved; Acme; Mahogany, rich and splendid; Beauty of Cheshunt; Black Prince, Yellow Model, Comet, Miss Wedderburn, National, Fireball, &c. The plants in the different marquees were very fine, and beautifully grown, but to describe these would too much increase the length of our notice. Suffice it to say, that everyone connected with the exhibition strove to the utmost to merit his award, and that Derby kept up in good style its well-earned fame for producing one of the best provincial exhibitions in the kingdom.

TULIP REMINISCENCES.

SEVERAL of our friends, whose gardens we visited during the summer, are very desirous that we should publish our memoranda of the flowers. We willingly do so, because we well know that such notes are often

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of great use, especially to young amateurs. Many of the seedlings which came under our observation were very good, and we will describe those of Mr. John Battersby first. He appears to have a good strain of seedlings. *Camilla*, flamed rose, we have before alluded to. This year, it was very beautiful and distinct, and will take a high place in its class. *Saxon* is a fine feathered bizarre, in the style of a good Platoff, but darker; still there is too much similarity for a stand of twelve dissimilar blooms. *Constance* we were much struck with; it has a beautifully-formed cup, with a fine deep feather of lively rose. We should say that this will be a first-rate pan flower. *Herald* is an excellent and distinct feathered bizarre. This would do to show in the same stand as dark feathered flowers, being a brilliant orange, with deep brown feather; and if XXX mean anything, these marks in our memoranda sufficiently indicate its quality. *Vesuvius* is very much in the way of Emperor of Austria, and is a pleasing and strikingly-marked flamed bizarre, but too narrow in the petals to suit the present improved taste. *Regulator* is a black feathered bizarre, a rich and attractive thing. *Othello* we had seen before, but it is a remarkably rich dark flamed byblœmen. The base is pure, though occasionally there is a light shade which surrounds the base at the lower part of the flame. It is one of the very darkest flowers in cultivation. *Telegraph* is a striking flower, large and bold, with a bright canary-coloured ground, and deep red feather. It will be attractive on a bed, but, from appearances, is much inclined to quarter.

At Mr. Lymbery's, *Nepaulese Prince* was in splendid trim. This, in either character, whether flame or feather, is first-rate; the white is beautifully pure, whilst the marking is the colour of the raven's wing. One of the best of its class. *Arlette* was very pretty, and we are almost inclined to believe that this flower gets more robust in constitution, the longer it is grown in this neighbourhood. We have

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seen it very good this season, in several places. *Mayflower* is a very nice seedling, a light feathered byblœmen, with an excellent cup, very attractive, and forming a nice contrast with most others. *Cartledge's Seedling* is a distinct feathered bizarre, with some very good points about it. The feathering is chrome, on yellow. *Perrian's Rear Admiral* is also very distinct and very scarce. A pure flower, with a nice brownish red flame. *Queen Catherine*, feathered rose, one of the most attractive bed flowers grown, but, unfortunately, stained. *Disley's Queen Victoria* has a fine cup, but is also impure, and thus comparatively worthless. *Irene*, a flower not much known out of this neighbourhood, and broken and named by us some years ago, was a very pretty and distinct feathered byblœmen. *Paul Pry* was in better character than we had ever previously seen it. Deep dark brown feather. *Lorenzo*, a flamed break of the very delicate feathered byblœmen, Mrs. Lymbery. It has a light lilac flame, and is in form rather above the average, but very effective. *Great Britain*, a large feathered bizarre, was good. It appears a steady variety. *Nora Creina*, a splendid feathered byblœmen, scarce in the midlands. Amongst other noticeable flowers, we were highly delighted with a flamed bizarre, called *Merit*. If it is a Pilot, as some aver, it is of a very remarkable break, as it is wholly different to the hundreds of that flower which we are in the habit of seeing. The flower appears to have as highly varnished a character outside as in. It is much darker, and the flaming has a good deal of workmanship about it, as an old friend of ours rather quaintly expresses it. *Miss Grace*, also grown by Mr. Marshall, is a pure, beautifully-marked, feathered rose, a first-row flower. It is rather small, but very pretty.

Of some of the Rev. S. Creswell's flowers we have remarked in our notes on the national exhibition, at Regent's Park. We may observe here, however, that he had a deep-feathered rosy byblœmen, a finely-

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cupped first-row flower, called *Topsy*. *Bacchus*, in its feathered character, was here very good; but, like *Rosa Blanca*, which was also first-rate, it is almost too early to show with other varieties. *Hepton's Sarah*, a heavy-feathered dark byblœmen, was in good character. *Lady Douro* (Groom) is a feathered rose, and certainly an addition to its class.

In this neighbourhood, we saw a Lancashire flower, we believe, called *Professor*. It originally came from Mr. Slater, and now the taste for contrast is increasing, will be appreciated as it really deserves to be. The cup is good, and the white delicately and lightly flamed, but in such a character as cannot fail to please. *Violet Quarto*, feathered, and *Violet Brun*, flamed, are two byblœmens that ought to be in every collection.

NOVELTIES.

We promised to give a short account of some really good things, and we know hundreds of our readers are anxious on this point, and as it is our desire to impart information of this kind, we shall proceed at once to talk about some of the new verbenas we have seen. Mr. Smith's, of the Tollington-road Nursery, are a good batch, being of excellent form, and certainly we think that his *Scarlet King* will become a greater favourite for bedding and exhibition purposes than Scarlet Defiance, which is saying a good deal. It is so round and flat, and the eye is very circular. Then there is *Caliban* and *Forget-me-not*, both very good. Amongst striped varieties which are very distinct, are *Madame Lamorciere*, very much in the way of Phlox Mayii variegata; and *Sarah*, sent out last season, by Mr. Turner, of the Royal Nurseries, Slough. The latter is white, distinctly striped with light purple. Of the varieties sent out by Mr. T. which we have seen good, is the lively *Annie Laurie*,

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a purplish rose, with large, round white eye. *Mrs. D. Tyson,* of good form, pinkish white, with crimson eye. *Bridesmaid,* of somewhat similar character, with a purplish centre. *Rouge et Noir* is not of so good shape, but it is rich and brilliant in the extreme. Of new Continental varieties blooming for the first time this season, *La Fraicheur* is remarkably beautiful. It really is refreshing to look at it. A bright lake, large pips, and well-formed truss. This will be a favourite, or we shall be mistaken. *Madame Smidth* we cannot say much about; it certainly is a somewhat distinct red, but the colour is dull. *Rougiere,* on the contrary, is a splendid thing. A velvety glowing crimson, with a large dark centre, and of large size. *Madame Geoffry* is also a favourite of ours. Nice flat even pips, with a pinkish ground and fine crimson eye. *Mrs. F. Coley* will do. Pure white, with a medium-sized purple eye. Our old friend, Mr. Perry, of Algakirk, near Lincoln, has raised a good one, called *Delight.* It is larger than Defiance, and somewhat darker, forming a compact and attractive head.

There is a new phlox, a remarkably pretty thing, for, were it only for its habit, it would be admired. It is in the way of P. subulata, the foliage being neat and bristly, prostrate, making a nice plant for rockwork, or for pot culture. It blossoms most abundantly. The flowers are white, with a pink eye, rendering it one of the prettiest plants of its tribe we have seen this season. As for *General Lamorciere,* which we purchased on the STRENGTH OF ITS CHARACTER,—"*lilac, blue centre,*"—most certainly it is so, but the flowers are undersized and the colours dingy, and it will not, amid the many attractive sorts which now exist, find many admirers. There are, however, the following, which will please:—*Tricolor Messina,* white, striped with purplish lilac, and darker centre. *Foudroyant,* bright carmine, with crimson eye, and of dwarf and pretty habit. *Reve d'Amour,* a splendid sort, a delicate rose, with nearly a scarlet centre.

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Madame Coislin, white ground, with a very attractive purple eye. These plants are very showy, hardy, and easily cultivated, and well adapted, from their spikes of bloom, to exhibit as cut flowers, and therefore suitable for the cottager, as well as the garden of his richer neighbour.

As for dianthuses, we are abundantly pleased with *Millerii*, raised in Staffordshire. At first, we thought it would be a failure, from the odd way in which it bloomed, only showing a single flower at a time; but as the season advanced, it assumed a first-rate character, and as a perennial bedding plant, with rich crimson double flowers, mottled with black, it is highly ornamental. Besides it has none of the appearance of the sweetwilliam, the flowers standing up on long footstalks. Then there is a seedling originated in one of the many little gardens round Nottingham. We have often thought that in these sequestered places "thousands are born to blush unseen;" and this very beautiful variety was not thought much of by the party who raised it; but he chanced to bring it to one of those useful exhibitions held by the Nottingham artizans and mechanics, when a member (a lineal descendant, we believe, of the "immortal Garrick") who is always on the *qui vive* for anything new and good, recognized its beauty, and immediately purchased it. The bloom was sent to us. Our impression was that it was a great improvement on all existing double sweetwilliams. We took it to Derby, and showed it to a gentleman from London, whom we considered a good judge. He put a damper on the thing at once. "Oh, it won't do! it won't do! it is serrated." So it is slightly; but then all double dianthuses are, and till we get others of as good form and as brilliant in colour, surely *Ajax* has a right to stand A. 1. It is vivid crimson in the ground, with a pure white well-defined margin. Of course it will be years before it becomes common; but we are certain it will be a favourite with every one who loves a hardy attractive flower, and who is

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not particular about "a fringe." The only source from whence there is great likelyhood of obtaining smooth-edged double flowers is Mr. Hunt's seedlings. They are extremely beautiful and smooth, and it is from them that, some day, the desideratum will be obtained.

In hollyhocks we have seen some good things. We have, for a provincial, had a splendid bloom of seedlings, especially dark ones, raised from Black Prince.; and though some hundreds were nearly as good as the parent, only two, presenting an improvement on that variety, have been saved. Of novel things, which will be admired by many, and from which seed should be saved, to endeavour to obtain a better form, are *Drummond's Sir I. Brooke* and *Wood's Mrs. Wood*; the former crimson, with white margin, the latter plum, with white edging. Both may be styled fancy flowers. Of a different character, however, is *Golden Ball.* This really is a splendid rich yellow, with smooth flat guard petals, the centre rising compactly, without being "pockety." Such a flower as Yellow Model is far behind it, both in form and colour. *Charles Kean* is a novel glossy brown, of excellent proportions; whilst *Purple Perfection* (Bircham), in the style of Pourpre de Tyr, is both darker and better. We hope to be able, in a subsequent number, to give a detailed list of some of the best and leading varieties of this noble flower, which is evidently taking a strong lead in public opinion.

In pinks also a rapid improvement is making, and we are now getting size and smoothness, with perfection in marking. Dr. Maclean is probably one of the most successful raisers of the present day. His Criterion was a flower in the right direction, but his *New Criterion* is very far superior, and will be grown by everyone who loves the pink. It is smooth, large, and edged with dark purple; but in the next page we give what Mr. Turner says about novelties in this class of flowers, closing our own memoranda for the present.

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FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

W. BURNETT, *Monk-gate, York.*—A heavy violet purple picotee, very promising, white good, petals smooth, and remarkably free from bars.

Mrs. Bayley (Dodwell).—Heavy purple picotee, very chaste and pure. A first-class flower.

Caroline (Marris).—A medium-edged purple picotee. Petals broad, well formed, and very pure.

Nina (Hollyoake).—Rose picotee. A neat and attractive medium edge. The blooms sent, we presume, were laterals, being below the average size.

No. 1.—FOSTER.—HOLLYHOCK.—Evidently a seedling from Belladonna, and though small, from the circumstance assigned, still it is a nice flower; but too much like the sort named to be kept distinct.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE PINK.

At the termination of another season, and while the blooms of 1854 are fresh on our memory, we will briefly record our impressions of what has been doing with the pink since our last notice in the *Florist* for August, 1854; and this is the more necessary as there are so many *new varieties* coming under notice for the first time.

The early blooms this season had a tendency to be rough on the edge and but imperfectly laced. As the season advanced, they bloomed much better. The display of this flower at the Royal Botanic Society's July exhibition was the best of the season, the flowers being generally as good as we remember to have seen them, being well laced, of good size, and without confused centres. Allowing for the influence the season has exercised on some varieties, our opinions given a twelvemonth since have proved

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tolerably correct. In speaking, then, of Mr. Bragg's flowers, we placed James Hogg as the *best*, and it undoubtedly is, although the lacing is occasionally too faint. The blooms of this variety exhibited at Basingstoke by Mr. Surman, gardener to J. C. Roberts, Esq., Twyford, near Winchester, showed as perfect a pink as we remember to have seen. Dr. Maclean's flowers have exceeded our expectations, having all—with the exception of Great Criterion, the plants of which suffered so much during the long severe winter, that they never finally recovered—proved most satisfactory. New Criterion is a most suberb flower, and opens dark purple, which changes to rosy purple as it ages, and is in either state a charming flower, full and smooth on the edges. Brunette, a heavily laced dark variety, is also a bold noble flower, and has the largest petal and widest marking of any flower we know, and, heavily laced as it is, there is a large space of white in each of the large broad petals. Adonis, another of Dr. Maclean's seedlings, is a chaste smooth flower, very clear in its markings petals smooth, and laced with soft rosy purple. Mrs. Norman, as shown by Mr. Baker, of Woolwich, has a very fine petal, and is altogether a first class flower. Hale's Field Marshal and Hale's Mr. Weedon are two useful evenly-laced flowers. Turner's Richard Andrews is a large well-laced flower, and may be termed a broad-petalled Whipper-in, as it resembles that variety, but has a wider and smoother petal. Duke of Devonshire is a flower with a smooth well-shaped petal, as full as Great Britain, and, like that variety, has rather too many petals, but its size can be reduced by leaving plenty of buds. Looker's John Stevens and Juliet are promising flowers, the former a dark purple, and the latter a light purple-laced variety; also Mr. Hoyle and Mr. Hobbs, red-laced flowers of good average quality, and good exhibition flowers. Norman's Napoleon is very dark-laced, a striking flower with a large bold petal, but is rather thin. Colchester Cardinal has proved a fine

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flower, with first-rate properties, having a very smooth stout petal.

Of older varieties, Maclean's Criterion stands at the head; it has been very fine this season, and fuller than it is often seen. Bragg's Jupiter has been very fine, and President and Purple Perfection have been shown good. Optima, Ada, Kate, Mrs. Wolf, Sarah, Lord Charles Wellesley, Arthur, Beauty of Salt Hill, Constance, Esther, Sappho, Lola Montes, Richard Smith, Titus, Lord Valentia, Perfection, and Hurlstone's Fanny, have all been exhibited in very good condition, and are generally very good flowers. We have seen a few yearlings that possess excellent properties, but refrain from enumerating them until another season has confirmed their being dissimilar, and desirable new varieties, as they appear at first to be. Some of the best flowers we have had were produced from plants wintered in small pots and planted out in spring, and, considering the small space they occupy during the winter, and there being no risk of losing them should the season be unfavourable, this plan should be more generally adopted.

The Florist.

THE TOBACCO PLANT.

THERE is no plant, observes Professor Targioni, whose history shows so many vicissitudes as that of the tobacco (Nicotiana tabacum). Imported from America soon after the discovery of that continent, it was received into the old world with a species of enthusiasm, and Europeans, Asiatics, and Africans began everywhere to smoke, to chew, and to snuff. It was not long, however, before some of the evils and inconveniences involved in the practice began to appear, and a host of enemies were raised up against it. Theologists pronounced it an invention of Satan, which destroyed the efficacy of fasting, a point much disputed in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Councils

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forbade it to all ecclesiastics under their control. Popes Urban VIII. and Innocent XI. punished the use of it with excommunication; Sultan Amurat IV. with the most cruel kinds of death; Schah Abbas II. with penalties almost as severe; Michael Feodorovitch Tourieff ordered a bastonade for the first offence, cutting off the nose for the second, and the head for the third offence: Prussia and Denmark simply prohibited, and James, of England, wrote against it. Finding, however, that no penalties, however severe, could check the indulgence in a luxury so highly appreciated, sovereigns and their governments soon found it more advantageous to turn it into a source of revenue, und the cultivation and manufacture of tobacco was gradually subjected almost everywhere to fiscal regulations, restrictions, or monopolies, which still prevail under various forms over the greater part of Europe. In Tuscany its growth was prohibited, except in a few localities where it was allowed under certain restrictions from 1645 till 1789, when the enlightened Grand Duke Peter Leopold declared free the cultivation of tobacco over the whole territory. But the country did not long enjoy this privilege; the intrigues of private speculators prevailed on Ferdinand III. to restrict it to the same localities only which had previously possessed it. The number of these was further reduced in 1826, and the permission totally withdrawn in 1830, and tobacco is now only grown here and there by stealth.

Tobacco was in such general use in America when first discovered, and there so widely spread, that it is difficult to come to any conclusion as to what precise part of that vast continent is its native country: probably some portion of the Mexican empire. As to the precise dates of its introduction into Europe it has been already stated that it followed closely upon the discovery of America. The Spaniards under Columbus had scarcely landed in Cuba, in 1492, when they began to smoke cigars; but they could only fully appreciate its luxuries when, in 1518, Fernando Cortez

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occupied the island of Tobago, where the plant was found growing in great abundance. Hernandez, the naturalist, was, it is believed, the first who brought it into Spain, from Mexico, in 1539. It was introduced into Portugal, from Florida, by one Flamingo, and into France by Father Andre Thevet, or some friend of his, although the more common opinion is that the first seeds received there were those sent about the year 1560, to Queen Catherine of Medicis, by Jean Nicot, French ambassador in Portugal. It was probably raised also in England a few years later, but received no notice till its well-known introduction by Sir Francis Drake, from Virginia, in 1586. In Tuscany it was first cultivated under Cosmo dei Medici, who died in 1574, having been originally raised by Bishop Alfonso Tornabuoni, from seeds received from his nephew, Monsignor Nicolo Tornabuoni, then ambassador at Paris, a great amateur of plants. After him it long bore the name of "Erba Tornabuoni."

A second but smaller and coarser species, Nicotiana rustica, much grown in some parts of south-eastern Europe, is generally said to be a native of Europe and Asia, but this is a mistake; like the N. tabacum, it is of American origin. So also is the long white-flowered Shiraz tobacco, recently published under the name of Nicotiana persica, but which is a mere variety of the N. longiflora, a species not uncommon in South America, and introduced from thence like the others, since Columbus's discovery.

Journal of the Horticultural Society.

HINTS ON PREPARING BORDERS FOR BEDDING OUT PLANTS.

[*From the Florist.*]

To grow in perfection the different plants now usually found in well-arranged flower gardens, requires a considerable acquaintance with the habits of the

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various things grown; for, differing as they do in habit and tendency to bloom when transferred to the free soil of the flower garden, it must be obvious that a due preparation of soil is necessary, in order to ensure a fine display of bloom at the proper season; these hints are therefore intended as general guides in its preparation. The arrangement of plants for summer decoration should, if possible, be made the autumn previous, when the greater part of the plants intended to be grown are in bloom, and when the colour of their flowers and habits can be seen to best advantage. A plan of the beds should then be committed to paper, and the plants to occupy each bed written thereon. This will not only be a good guide as to the number required to be propagated, but will enable you, in the course of the spring, to prepare each bed with suitable compost, so that each plant may be accommodated, as near as possible, with a soil to grow in calculated for producing the greatest amount of flowers, by checking a too luxuriant growth in some cases, and stimulating weak growths in others. With the above, by way of preface, I will commence with the pelargonium, of which in every class, scarlet, ordinary, and fancy kinds, large numbers are each spring turned out. Among what I have termed ordinary or common pelargoniums, certain kinds have been selected as constant bloomers, and as such valuable for the purpose; to have these in perfection, a poor and dry soil will, in most cases, grow them sufficently strong for blooming freely. Most of the common kinds cultivated, to keep them in check, are plunged in their pots, but a very poor and shallow soil answers the same purpose; for if the soil be at all rich, nothing but luxuriant foliage will be the result. Fancy geraniums are very pretty, when bedded; but the soil, as above, must be poor, and well drained, and they require some protection from very heavy rains. Scarlet and variegated geraniums, which are always largely planted, require some management, to do them well. A good plan is

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to place a substratum of richer soil about six inches below the surface, which should be poor. They will, however, grow strong enough in this till somewhat exhausted by blooming (which will take place early in the poorest), by which time their roots will have reached the better soil below, which keeps them in vigour throughout the remainder of the season. Even the different kinds of scarlets want treatment slightly varied; as a rule, the weaker ones require better soil than the robust varieties. Strong-growing kinds of verbenas, which may be represented by Defiance, should be planted in poor soil, moderately heavy; while Boule de Feu, Mons. Pasquin, and delicate growers, require a rich one. A little manure, or a richer soil placed below the surface, is the best way of keeping them up to the mark towards the close of the season. Salvias should have a deep rich border to keep them in good bloom through the season, and be liberally supplied with water in dry weather. Calceolarias like a portion of peat, or heathy mould, and some well-rotted cow-dung. An open soil, rendered cool by the above mixtures, and attention to watering, will ensure a fine bloom of these favourites. The tall-growing, or herbaceous lobelias, should be well brought forward under glass, before venturing them out; these thrive best in decayed vegetable mould and sand. After planting, and particularly in dry weather, you may treat them as sub-aquatics, and they will bloom all the finer for it. These are most showy plants in the autumn. Those beautiful varieties of Lobelia erinus, so different in habit from the above, require a light rich soil; but not too much damp, or they are apt to rot off. Petunias require a moderately firm soil, not over rich; when too light and open, they damp off in wet weather. Pentstemons, phloxes, and dianthus, all delight in a moderately enriched soil, of moderate firmness, Mimuluses will thrive well in the compost prescribed for tall lobelias. Plant lantanas in poor and shallow borders, where they will bloom abun-

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dantly, and are very pretty plants. Plumbago capensis I have seen bloom freely on very poor soil, in a dry summer; there is scarcely a more charming plant than this, when covered with its beautiful spikes of light blue flowers. Roses cannot have too rich a soil, except the Teas, for which it should as well be warm and dry. Mesembryanthemums, a dry sunny exposure to have them in perfection; admirable for rockwork.

Heliotropes grow well almost anywhere, but are most prolific of bloom on dry soils, not over rich. Stocks, asters, marigolds, and other plants of this class, should have deep rich soil. Stocks delight in strong loam, if well worked previously. The new French asters, which are really beautiful things, should be accommodated with a rich border, and plentifully supplied with water in dry weather.

J. G.

GOOSEBERRY SHOW, at Ounsdale, August 7.

Heaviest Four Berries.—London, 24dwt.; Catherina, 23dwt. 10gr.; Fearless, 22dwt. 12gr.; Freedom, 20dwt, 18gr. G. Addis.
Best Seedling.—18dwt. 14gr. J. Elliott.
Heaviest Single Berry.—Fearless, 27dwt. 10gr, G. Addis.

	RED.	dwt.	gr.
1	Companion, G. Addis	27	0
2	London, ditto	24	0
3	Lion, ditto	24	0
4	Conquering Hero, ditto	22	16
5	Lion's Provider, J. Elliott	22	4
6	Plumper, ditto	21	6
	YELLOW.		
1	Drill, G. Addis	25	6
2	Pilot, ditto	24	4
3	Catherina, ditto	24	4
4	Leader, ditto	20	12
5	Peru, J. Guest	20	6
6	Two to One, G. Addis	20	0

	GREEN.	dwt.	gr.
1	Little Wonder, J. Elliott	25	0
2	Fearless, G. Addis	20	23
3	Telegraph, ditto	20	20
4	Turnout, ditto	20	0
5	Thumper, ditto	19	20
6	Providence, J. Elliott	19	20
	WHITE.		
1	Freedom, G. Addis	23	0
2	Antagonist, ditto	21	0
3	Snowdrop, J. Elliott	21	0
4	Flora, G. Addis	20	16
5	Moreton Lass, ditto	20	4
6	Cossack, ditto	20	12

In your little work, a few months since, some one was recommending the attempting to raise seedlings from the Pæonia moutan. This I have done several years since, some of them having bloomed, and one being infinitely superior to the parent. The pollen I made use of was from the Pæonia anemoneflora. I

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have one, the foliage of which is copper colour. It has not yet bloomed, although eight years old. I have been trying for seed every year since my first attempt, but could not succeed until last year, when I saved upwards of thirty seeds, which I have sown. They will not make their appearance the first year, so only an enthusiast will trouble himself about them.—R. H.

Culture and Propagation of the Phlox.—The culture of the phlox has, within these few years, made considerable progress. The number of its varieties is notably increased, by new forms created from already established favourites; and amongst these may be included the Phlox Drummondii, which, as is well known, is an annual;—and thus an intelligent cultivation has obtained from it some types exactly similar, both with regard to colour and form of flowers, to those possessed by the Phlox decussata and Phlox pyramidalis. Amongst the many varieties produced by the celebrated French horticulturist, M. Lierval, may be mentioned President Decaisne, a very vigorous plant, panicle very large, flowers carmine, of a darker shade than hitherto obtained. Dr. Andry, very strong, presenting a very large panicle, somewhat elongated; flowers violet, darker at the base of each division than at the extremity, forming a star in the centre. Madame Pescatore, pure white, the throat of the tube circled with rose carmine. Atropurpurea, colours very rich and vivid. Comte de Chambord, a beautiful plant, very fine white. Ji-jem-ji, light violet, with white centre. Striata superba, striped red. Reve d'Amour, a very charming and vigorous plant, colour rose. Alexandrina, dark violet, with purple centre. The phlox is one of the most vigorous plants we possess. It will stand well in any position, either in the shade or exposed to the sun; moreover, like the major part of our herbaceous plants, it prefers a good garden soil, and requires, at the period of flowering, copious supplies of water. It is multiplied by cuttings, either

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in spring or autumn. In order to procure cuttings in autumn, it is necessary to take off the extremity of the stems. Thus truncated, these stems are not long in emitting young buds at the axis of almost all the leaves. It is these same buds which must constitute the shoots. Again, the phlox is multiplied either by slips or *beddings*. By bending lightly the branches in the soil, and watering them, during the months of August and September, eyes will soon be seen to form at the angle of each of the leaves which are thus laid down. In short, the phlox may be multiplied by the separation of clusters or tufts, by cuttings, with leaves, roots, and seeds. We recommend these different modes with a view of preserving remarkable varieties; the seeds should only be employed for the purpose of obtaining novelties.—*From the French of Delahaye, by G. R. Alexander.*

KILMARNOCK WEEPING WILLOW.—This beautiful weeping plant having lately attracted attention, its history may not be uninteresting. There lived, in a sequestered corner of Monkwood estate, near Ayr, an aged botanist, named James Smith, an enthusiastic lover of plants, and a zealous collector. From him Mr. Lang, nurseryman, Kilmarnock, purchased o ne plant, about ten years ago. Afterwards Mr. Lang procured a few more plants from Mr. Smith; and as the old gentleman died shortly after, he never had an opportunity of ascertaining where he procured the variety. It is probable, however, that he found it growing wild, as the species, Salix caprea or Palm Willow, is one of the most common plants in the country. Mr. Lang has since been engaged in propagating the plant, and nearly a thousand have been sold. Sir W. J. Hooker received two plants of it in spring, 1852, and having observed, during last summer how exceedingly ornamental it was, he gave Mr. Lang a decided opinion, stating that he thought very highly of it, and that it was much admired in the Royal Gardens at Kew. The tree flowers freely in the month of April, has broad glossy leaves, every

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branch is curved gracefully downward, and it is as hardy as the most hardy plant we have, being in fact a native of the country, and not, like the Salix Babylonica, introduced from a foreign clime. The name of Kilmarnock Weeping Willow was bestowed upon it to distinguish it from the common Weeping Willow, the Napoleon Weeping Willow, and the American Weeping Willow; it is quite distinct from either of these varieties, having leaves two inches broad.—*Kilmarnock Journal.*

HYBRIDIZING TULIPS.—I congratulate your correspondent J. B. S. on his success in hybridizing tulips. He has done much better than me. I have attempted to seed Duke of Devonshire, Maid of Orleans, and Gibbons's Catherine, but have altogether failed. I am glad he has been more successful. Last year, I crossed Duchess of Newcastle with Gibbons's Catherine, and got a good pod of seed, which I sowed in March, this year, and in August, took up fifty-eight beautiful seeds, about the size of peas. Being fond of flowers, and especially tulips, I am glad that some growers are attempting to raise new and better varieties. In my opinion, the genuine florist will pay great attention to this part of nature's operations, and will endeavour to add to the existing stock of these superlatively beautiful flowers. I am thankful to J. B. S. for the information on the subject of hybridizing, or his method of doing it; and if spared another year, shall try the plan he has tried so happily. It would be interesting, if others would communicate their mode of crossing and saving tulip seed. If J. B. S. should have more seed than he can attend to, I should be glad to take one, two, or three pods, at a reasonable price.—JOHN STEVENSON.

CULTURE OF THE PINK.—The culture of the pink, after having for a long period been the hobby and delight of the majority of amateurs, and occupied the marked attention of horticulturists in general, is

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to-day, one may say, almost ignored! It is indeed somewhat difficult to account for this very beautiful and agreeable flower falling into such unmerited oblivion, and we are, under these circumstances, emboldened to take up the pen with a view of rescuing it from, *mirabile dictu!* its apparent impending fate, by making known a method of culture which, in changing its period of flowering, may, perhaps, have the effect of restoring it to that position which it ought really never to have lost. It was in 1851 that I made trial of the method which I am about to describe. The result answered my most sanguine expectations, and I do not hesitate, therefore, to detail the simple operations by which this success was attained. When the stems of the pink begin to shoot up, in June, I layer them. A month or five weeks after this operation, all these layers, or very nearly the whole, become furnished with roots. I then repot them, and place them in a frame, under glass, keeping them closely covered for some days; after which, I admit air gradually. In the month of October, when my layers are advanced, I give them a prop, and immediately the external temperature demands it, shift them to a greenhouse. It is there that the blooms which now display themselves can be duly appreciated during the winter months. On the 25th of December last, the pinks which I submitted to the above mode of culture in the June previous, were covered with flowers! I doubt not but many horticulturists will not hesitate to imitate me, the more especially as it is a simple and easy means of adding, during the winter season, another agreeable ornament to the conservatory, or it may be equally to decorate the drawing room, or other apartments of the mansion, or dwelling-house.—*From the French, by G. R. Alexander.*

Ipswich Cucumber Standard.—Having had the honour of proposing the above standard, nearly twenty years ago, I cannot help feeling an interest in any

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public remarks that are made upon it. I would, therefore, with all due deference to your great experience, most respectfully offer a few words in support of my long-established opinion of what a prize cucumber ought to be. In the first place, I contend that long fruit, *unless they embrace all the other properties*, are not recognised at Ipswich; for example, a fruit, however long it may be, of irregular form, of light or yellowish green, smooth, glossy, with sickly-looking white spine, and a blossomless, weasel nose, would stand no chance in competition with a neat little fruit of half the length. But if a twenty-four-inch fruit, two inches in diameter (which I still maintain is perfection, and the true meaning of my standard, *if accompanied with the other properties*), perfectly straight, uniform in size, dark green, well covered with bloom, and prominent black spine, slightly ribbed (not large bony ribs, but merely streaks produced from luxuriant growth), retaining the blossom on a well-turned plump nose, and fresh cut, then I say twelve diameters in preference to nine. It will not, therefore, be very difficult to understand why a perfect long fruit is superior to a perfect short one; the twelve diameters will not only take the lead at the show, but will also command a higher price at market. I believe there are many cucumber growers, in fact I know there are some, who meet with disappointment through saving crooked, blob-ended fruit, for the sake of obtaining a large quantity of seed; but if you wish to improve your stock, keep the plants in a high state of cultivation—save only perfect show fruit. Many will say no seed can be got from such specimens. I grant it is but a small quantity—one hundred seeds from a dozen splendid fruit is a good crop, very frequently I have had a much less quantity; but then I have had the gratification of knowing that such seed can be depended upon. I state, without fear of contradiction, that it is a step in the right direction. During the past twenty years, I have had the honour of sending out

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some of the best cucumbers in cultivation; and as the same care has invariably been observed in saving the true stock of seed as in producing fruit for exhibition, I have been rewarded by receiving flattering testimonials, without a single complaint. If the same system were adopted with florists' flowers, I doubt not we should have less complaints from those who purchase new varieties.—THOMAS WILD.—*Horticultural Journal.*

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

JAMES PEARSON.—SIX GOOD HOLLYHOCKS TO BEGIN WITH.—Comet, Saffranot, Belladonna, Queen of Roses, Black Prince, and Yellow Model. These are not expensive.

WM. SIMS.—It will be useless your purchasing the tulips you name, though they are offered cheap. The party is more wide awake than you are. If he do not sell, he will destroy them; for purity is so absolutely necessary now, that we imagine few florists would risk a stained or cloudy flower in a stand, though we observe, in reports of shows, in some parts of the country, that stained flowers yet win; but we imagine the judges are told in these cases to look to marking *first*. We do not know how otherwise to account for it.

HENRY SMITHSON.—PLUMS.—The Black Diamond is a large variety, as its name implies. It appears to bear well, and is a right sort for market. It has an agreeable acid. Mrs. Gisborne is yellow, and a great bearer. It is apt to rot on the tree, and is bad for marketing, as it bruises easily, and turns brown and unsightly. We think your plan of planting your allotment a good one; but do not get great straggling trees. On the Continent, the system of growing them as pyramids is carried out to its full extent, and no plan is better adapted for the small garden holder. We will endeavour to give you a selection in our next number, which will be in ample time for you.

WM. ROLLITT.—TREES FOR A CEMETERY.—The common or Irish yew is adapted for this purpose; also several of the junipers. As a deciduous tree, the Weeping Willow (Salix Babylonica) is best, though we understand the Kilmarnock Weeping Willow is a very graceful broad-leaved variety.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

TULIP SHOW.

At Mr. G. Mountford's, Artizan's Retreat, Longport, Staffordshire, May 20.

Judges.—Mr. R. Moorley, Newcastle-under-Lyme; Mr. H. Bradshaw, Eastwood Vale, Shelton; Mr. G. Henshall, Hanley.

Pans.—1. Magnum Bonum, seedling, Chellaston, Louis XVI., Lady Crewe, and Aglaia, R. Heath. 2. Royal Sovereign, San Joe, Ambassador of Holland, Lucy Neal, Comte de Vergennes, and Aglaia, J. Johnson. 3. Waterloo, San Joe, Chellaston, Chellaston, Comte de Vergennes, and Aglaia, G. Mountford. 4. Royal Sovereign, Pilot, Bienfait, Violet Wallers, Comte de Vergennes, and Rose Guerrier, E. Eardley.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., R. Heath
2 Rising Sun, J. Johnson
3 Rising Sun, G. Mountford
4 Catafalque, R. Heath
5 Waterloo, G. Mountford
6 Nonpareil, R. Heath

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Charles X., R. Heath
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Polyphemus, ditto
4 San Joe, ditto
5 Lord Milton, ditto
6 High Carlos, ditto

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Chellaston, R. Heath
2 Baguet, E. Eardley
3 Washington, R. Heath
4 Bienfait, ditto
5 La Belle Narene, ditto
6 Bryan's Charlotte, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Chellaston, R. Heath
2 Queen Charlotte, ditto
3 Violet Wallers, ditto
4 Baguet, R. Heath
5 Chellaston, ditto
6 Key's Unknown, ditto

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, R. Heath
2 Comte de Vergennes, ditto
3 Seedling, ditto
4 Chellaston, ditto
5 Lady Lilford, ditto
6 Andromeda, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, R. Heath
2 Triomphe Royale, J. Johnson
3 Marquis of Granby, R. Heath
4 Clio, ditto
5 Ponceau Brilliante, J. Johnson
6 Triomphe Royale, E. Eardley

Breeders.

Victory (bizarre), R. Heath
Maid of Orleans (byblœmen), ditto
Lord Derby (rose), ditto

Selfs.

Min d'Or, R. Heath
White Flag, ditto

PATRICROFT TULIP SHOW.

At the Wellington Inn, May 20.

Maiden Prizes.—1. Comte and Unique, I. Cauldwell. 2. Sovereign and Unique, I. Thompson.

Premier Prizes.—1. Heroine and Unique, C. Wyche. 2. Sovereign and Captain White, I. Thompson.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Sovereign, C. Wyche
2 Crown Prince, I. Cauldwell
3 Polyphemus, C. Wyche
4 Trafalgar, I. Cauldwell
5 Lord Lilford, I. Thompson
6 Goude Beurs, ditto
7 Unknown, R. Pollitt
8 Unknown, M. Fogg

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Lustre, M. Fogg
2 Albion, C. Wyche
3 Lacantique, M. Fogg
4 Devonshire, I. Thompson
5 Catafalque, I. Cauldwell
6 Liberty, I. Cauldwell
7 Rufus, I. Thompson
8 Unknown, R. Pollitt

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, C. Wyche
2 Baguet, ditto
3 Louis XVI., I. Cauldwell
4 La Belle Narene, ditto
5 Lady Flora Hastings, I. Thompson
6 Unknown, ditto
7 Violet Alexander, M. Fogg
8 Siam, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 La Belle Narene, C. Wyche
2 Bienfait, R. Pollitt

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3 Baguet, C. Wyche
4 Tout, M. Fogg
5 Princess Royal, ditto
6 Unknown, R. Pollitt
7 Gibbons's, T. Cauldwell
8 Wallers, I. Thompson

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, C. Wyche
2 Andromeda, M. Fogg
3 Heroine, I. Thompson
4 Dolittle, C. Wyche
5 Lady Lilford, M. Fogg
6 Unknown, I. Thompson
7 Comte, R. Pollitt
8 Unknown, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, C. Wyche
2 La Vandicken, ditto
3 Triomphe Royale, I. Cauldwell
4 Lady Crewe M. Fogg
5 Roi de Cerise, I. Cauldwell
6 Thalestris, M. Fogg
7 Unknown, I. Thompson
8 Ditto, ditto

Breeders.

Cato (bizarre), I. Thompson
Princess Royal (byblœmen), C. Wyche
Lady Lilford (rose), ditto

Selfs.

Min d'Or, C. Wyche
White Perfection, ditto

TULIP SHOW.

At Mr. Wm. Duncalf's, Gardeners' Arms, Smallthorn, Staffordshire, May 27.

Judges.—Messrs. R. Moorley and D. Brown, Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Pans—1. Charles X., Royal Sovereign, Maid of Orleans. Prince Elie, Comte de Vergennes, and Aglaia, S. Mountford. 2. Lord Brougham, Polyphemus, Ambassador de Holland, Violet Wallers, Comte de Vergennes, and Aglaia, J. Durber. 3. Charles X., Catafalque, Buckley's Glory, unknown, Lady Middleton, and Aglaia, T. Knott.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Rising Sun, S. Mountford
2 Charles X., ditto
3 St. Agnes, T. Knott
4 Spencer's Duke, E. Bradshaw
5 Scholes's Delight, S. Mountford
6 Magnum Bonum, E. Bradshaw

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, S. Mountford
2 Unknown, ditto
3 Royal Sovereign, E. Bradshaw
4 Catafalque, ditto
5 Seedling, J. Durber
6 Paul Pry, S. Mountford

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Lawrence's Friend, E. Bradshaw
2 Washington, J Durber
3 Unknown, W. Kelsall
4 Maitre Partout, S. Mountford
5 Bienfait, W. Kelsall
6 La Belle Narene, J. Durber

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Washington, S. Mountford
2 Prince Albert, ditto
3 Violet Wallers, ditto
4 Prince Elie, J. Durber
5 Maid of Athens, W. Kelsall
6 Baguet, E. Bradshaw

Feathered Roses.

1 Andromeda, S. Mountford
2 Heroine, W. Kelsall
3 Lady Middleton, T. Knott
4 Walworth, E. Bradshaw
5 Duc de Bronte, S. Mountford
6 Vesta, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, S. Mountford
2 Aglaia, ditto
3 Lord Hill, W. Kelsall
4 Vesta, S Mountford
5 Wilhelmina, J. Durber
6 Anastasia, E. Bradshaw

Breeders.

Polyphemus, S. Mountford
Maid of Orleans, W. Kelsall
Catherine, S. Mountford

Selfs.

White Perfection, J. Durber
Min d'Or, E Bradshaw

YORK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

May 31.

TULIPS.

Judges.—Messrs. Wood and Cooper, York.

Premier Prizes.—Best feathered flower, Lord Lilford, Miss Buckle. Best flamed flower, Polyphemus, Miss Buckle. Best breeder (byblœmen), unknown, Mr. Hepton.

Pans of Twelve Dissimilar Varieties.—1. Surpass Salvator Rosa, Sheet Anchor, Lord Denman, Reid's Prince Albert, Charles X., Triomphe Royale, Apelles, Vivid, Princess Royal, Pompe Funebre, Chellaston Beauty, and Polyphemus, Mr. Hepton. 2. Beauty of the Plain, Triomphe Royale, Criterion,

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Pilot, Sheet Anchor, Princess Royal, Charles X., unknown, Aglaia, Lord Lilford, Countess of Harrington, and Miss Fanny Cerito, Mr. Steward. 3. Disqualified, Baguet with seven petals.

Pans of Nine.—Strong's King, Charles X., Polyphemus, Superb en Noir, First-rate, Nora Creina, Heroine, Arlette (feathered), and Arlette (flamed), Mr. Hepton. 2. Charles X., Sable Monarch, Lord Lilford, Aglaia, Pilot, Triomphe Royale, Countess of Harrington, Naylor's No. 5, and Princess Royal, Mr. Steward. 3. Compte de Vergennes, Triomphe Royale, Lord Dedman, Princess Royal, Baguet, Catafalque Superior, Polyphemus, Magnum Bonum, and unknown, Miss Buckle.

Pans of Six.—1. Heroine, Baguet, Polyphemus, Lord Lilford, Lord Denman, and Triomphe Royale, Miss Buckle. 2. Aglaia, Princess Royale, Charles X., Sable Monarch, Lord Lilford, and Triomphe Royale, Mr. Steward 3. Triomphe Royale, unknown, Charles X., Aglaia, Ambassador de Holland, and Magnum Bonum, Mr. Somers. 4. Magnum Bonum, Vivid, Princess Royal, Van Amburgh, Triomphe Royale, and Cerise a Belle Forme, Mr. Hepton.

Pans of Three.—1. Polyphemus, Mountain Sylph, and Spencer's First-rate, Mr. Hepton. 2. Elegans, Sir Sidney Smith, and Triomphe Royale, Mr. Bell. 3. Catafalque Superior, Beauty of the Plain, and unknown, Mr. Steward. 4. Aglaia, Charles X., and unknown, Mr. Somers.

Pans of Six Breeders.—1. Van Amburgh, Princess Royal, and Willison's King, Queen, Juliet, and Sir Joseph Paxton, Mr. Hepton. 2. Princess Royal, unknown, Catherine, Defiance, Lady Leicester, Van Amburgh, Mr, Steward. 3. Lord Denman, Cotherstone, unknown, Princess Royal, unknown, and Maid of Athens, Mr. Somers.

Pans of Three Breeders.—1. Sir Joseph Paxton, Juliet, and unknown, Mr. Hepton. 2. Lady Leicester, Princess Royal, and Pilot, Mr. Steward. 3, Unknown, Princess Royal, and Catherine, Mr. Somers. 4. Elegans, Catherine, and seedling, Mr. Bell.

TULIP SHOW.

At the Boar's Head Inn, Old Cross, Ashton-under-Lyne, June 1.

Maiden Prizes.—1. Lady Crewe, J. Warren. 2. Charles X., W. Cottam.

Best Pan of Six Rectified Flowers (silver cup, value £5).—Charles X., Gibbons's Sir H. Pottinger, Heroine, Polyphemus, Incomparable, and Aglaia, W. Peacock, Esq., Denton Lodge.

Breeder Cup.—Duke of Kent, Sir R. Peel, and Juliet, Z. Peacock, Esq.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Masterpiece (Slater), J. Turner, Esq.
2 Charles X., L. Ashmole
3 Earl of Richmond, S. Ardern
4 Sir Sidney Smith, Z. Peacock, Esq.
5 Apelles, ditto
6 Surpass Catafalque, L. Ashmole
7 Catafalque Superieure, S. Barlow
8 President, S. Shawcross
9 Jane J. Turner, Esq.
10 Royal Gem, J. Haigh
11 Waterloo, W. Sharp
12 Dentonian, J. Turner, Esq.

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Abercromby, J. Dickens
2 Polyphemus, S. Ardern
3 Abercromby, J. Haigh
4 Charles X., J. Knott
5 Albion, S. Shawcross
6 Lustre, W. Matley
7 Paul Pry, J. Dickens
8 Duke of Devonshire, J. Haigh
9 Don Cossack, R. Dixon
10 Earl St. Vincent, S. Barlow
11 Vogan Dale, J. Dickens
12 William Tell, A. Leech

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Edgar (Naylor), J. Turner, Esq.
2 Bienfait, W. Chadwick
3 Beauty (Buckley), J. Haigh
4 Catherine (Qu. of North), J. Turner
5 Sir H. Pottinger (Gibbons), J. Dickens
6 Maid of Athens, A. Leech
7 Unknown (Gibbons), R. Dixon
8 Lancashire Hero, W. Chadwick
9 Britannia, W. Peacock, Esq.
10 Maid of Orleans, Z. Peacock, Esq.
11 Surpassant, S. Barlow
12 Grace Darling, W. Peacock. Esq.

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Fair Flora (Buckley), J. Turner. Esq.
2 Bienfait, J. Haigh
3 Queen Charlotte, J. Knott
4 Incomparable, J. Turner, Esq.
5 Bacchus, ditto
6 Fair Flora, Z. Peacock, Esq.
7 Roi de Siam, S. Barlow
8 Princess Royal, R. Dixon
9 Buckley's Glory, Z. Peacock, Esq.
10 Pyramid of Egypt, ditto
11 Violet Wallers, W. Peacock, Esq.
12 Czarinne, W. Matley

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, W. Matley
2 Heroine, R. Dixon
3 Lady Crewe, W. Matley
4 Jupiter (Naylor), J. Turner, Esq.
5 Duchess of Newcastle. W. Peacock

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6 Jean of Arragon, W. Peacock, Esq.
7 Andromeda, J. Hilton
8 Walworth, ditto
9 Celestial, S. Barlow
10 Comte, J. Yarwood
11 Dolittle, S. Barlow
12 Lady Grey (Haigh), M. Haigh

Flamed Roses.

1 Triomphe Royale, W. Matley
2 Aglaia, R Dixon
3 Unique, J. Haigh
4 Triomphe Royale, J. Dickens
5 Vesta, W. Matley
6 Camillus, J. Wild
7 Celestial, Samuel Barlow
8 Fairy Queen, W. Matley
9 La Vandicken, J. Knott
10 Manteau Ducale, W. Matley
11 Lord Hill, H. Cowburn
12 Claudiana, Z. Peacock, Esq.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Seedling, L. Ashmole
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Earl Murray, W. Matley
4 Sir J. Paxton, W. Peacock, Esq.
5 Duke of Hamilton, S. Ardern
6 Seedling, L. Ashmole
7 Ditto, ditto
8 Ditto, ditto
9 Earl Radnor, J. Haigh
10 Sunbeam, S Ardern

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Princess Royal, J Yarwood
2 Sancta Sophia, J. Haigh
3 Friar Tuck, J. Slater
4 Seedling, J. Haigh
5 Sir H. Pettinger, J. Turner, Esq.
6 Lady Seymour, W. Peacock, Esq.
7 Monarch, W. Matley
8 Gibbons, W. Peacock, Esq.
9 Regulator, J. Haigh
10 Roland, J Yarwood

Rose Breeders.

1 Amelia, S. Barlow
2 Lord Derby, J. Newton
3 Celestial, S. Barlow
4 Juliet, J. Turner, Esq.
5 Lady Catherine Gordon, L. Ashmole
6 King of Scarlets, W. Peacock, Esq.
7 Lady Stanley, ditto
8 Anastasia, W. Matley
9 Newcastle, J. Wild
10 Andromeda, J. Haigh

Yellow Selfs.

1 Min d'Or, J. Haigh
2 Yellow Model, J. Knott

White Selfs.

1 White Flag, W. Chadwick
2 White Perfection, J. Slater

HALIFAX TULIP SHOW.

At the Shoulder of Mutton Inn, June 1.

Premier Prizes.—1. Waterloo, W. Mitchell. 2. Abercromby, J. Fletcher. 3. Lawrence's Athalia, G. Baildon.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Waterloo, G. Baildon
2 Duke of Devonshire, W, Mitchell
3 Optimus, J. Fletcher
4 General Bolivar, G. Baildon
5 Charles X., J. Hinscliffe
6 Grand Cairo, J. Fletcher
7 Hepworth's Henry, W. Mitchell
8 Polyphemus, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Abercromby, J. Fletcher
2 Hamlet, J. Hinscliff
3 Donzelli, G. Baildon
4 Surpass Catafalque, J. Fletcher
5 Cotterill's Victory, J. Rushworth
6 Earl Douglas, W. Mitchell
7 Polyphemus, G. Baildon
8 Charles X., J. Rushworth

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Surpass Tout Superbe, W. Mitchell
2 Baguet Primo, J. Fletcher
3 La Belle Narene, ditto
4 General Barneveldt, G. Baildon
5 Maid of Orleans, J. Hinscliffe
6 Queen of May, J. Fletcher
7 Bienfait, ditto
8 Unknown, J. Hinscliffe

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Grand Cid, J. Fletcher
2 Gibbons's Seedling, J. Rushworth
3 Britannia, J. Hinscliffe
4 Baguet Rigaut, J. Fletcher
5 Lawrence's Friend, G. Baildon
6 Lord Byron, W. Mitchell
7 Maid of Orleans, ditto
8 Bienfait, J. Fletcher

Feathered Roses

1 Comte de Vergennes, J. Hinscliffe
2 Lady Crewe, G. Baildon
3 Lady Middleton, J. Fletcher
4 Heroine, J. Rushworth
5 Comte de Vergennes, G. Baildon
6 Walworth, W. Mitchell
7 Cerise Primo Superbe, ditto
8 Goldham's Mary Ann, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, J. Hinscliffe
2 Triomphe Royale, J. Rushworth
3 La Vandicken, G. Baildon
4 Lord Hill, J. Rushworth
5 Fairy Queen, G. Baildon
6 Vesta, ditto
7 Manteau Ducale, J. Fletcher
8 Rose Montona, G. Baildon

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Polyphemus, J. Rushworth
2 Dutch Catafalque, G. Baildon
3 Polyphemus × Leopold, ditto
4 Victory, J. Rushworth

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Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Van Amburgh, J. Rushworth
2 Midland Beauty, G. Baildon
3 Gibbons's Seedling, J. Rushworth
4 Thomas Zuill, W. Mitchell

Rose Breeders
1 Fairy Queen, G. Baildon
2 Gibbons's Seedling, J. Rushworth
3 Lady Middleton, J. Fletcher
4 Gibbons's Seedling, J. Rushworth

Selfs.
1 Seedling White, J. Fletcher
2 Flag, ditto
3 Min d'Or, J. Rushworth
4 Cotherstone, ditto

OLDHAM FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the Town Hall, Oldham, May 31.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Charles X., S Cocks
2 Sir Sidney Smith, ditto
3 Lord Lilford, J. Ashton
4 Royal Gem, S. Cocks
5 Waterloo, J. Heap
6 Surpass Catafalque, J. Smithies
7 Catafalque Superior, B. Hilton
8 Joseph Strutt, S. Cocks

Flamed Bizarres.
1 San Joe, S. Cocks
2 Charles X., ditto
3 Lustre de Beaute, J. Morton
4 Albion, S. Barlow
5 Catafalque Superior, J. Boardman
6 Charbonnier, J. Taylor
7 Surpass Catafalque, J. Taylor
8 Waterloo, J. Heap

Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, J. Lees, Esq.
2 Baguet, S. Cocks
3 Catherina, J. Taylor
4 La Belle Narene, S. Barlow
5 Sable Monarch, J. Ashton
6 Sancta Sophia, S. Cocks
7 Duc de Bordeaux, J. Ashton
8 Beauty, S. Cocks

Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Bacchus, J. Taylor
2 Bienfait, S. Cocks
3 Violet Wallers, J. Boardman
4 Roi de Siam, J. Smithies
5 Beauty, S. Cocks
6 Diana Bruin, B. Hilton
7 Baguet, S. Cocks
8 Princess Royal, ditto

Feathered Roses.
1 Heroine, J. Ashton
2 Lady Crewe, S Cocks
3 Newcastle, ditto
4 Comte, J. Taylor
5 Andromeda, J. Lees, Esq.
6 Dolittle, S. Barlow
7 Duc de Bronte, B. Hilton
8 Lady Grey, S. Cocks

Flamed Roses.
1 Aglaia, S. Cocks
2 Unique, ditto
3 Triomphe Royale, J. Boardman
4 Vesta, J. Heap
5 Celestial, S. Barlow
6 Lady Crewe, B. Hilton
7 Lady Suffield, S. Cocks
8 Lord Hill, J. Ashton

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Polyphemus, S. Barlow
2 Duke of Kent, J. Heap
3 Seedling, J. Cheetham, Esq.

Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Princess Royal, J. Lees, Esq.
2 Sancta Sophia, S. Cocks
3 Sir H. Pottinger (Slater), ditto

Rose Breeders.
1 Celestial, S. Barlow
2 Lord Derby, S. Cocks
3 Marchioness of Waterford, ditto

Selfs.
White Perfection, S. Barlow
Min d'Or, W. Bentley

Mr. Samuel Cocks also exhibited (not for competition) two blooms of seedling, Violet Amiable. They were in good condition, and were much admired.

TULIP SHOW.

At Mr. J. Ogden's, Unicorn Inn, Royton, June 3.

Stewards' and Maiden Prizes, the best pair, a feather and a flame.—Maiden Prize (kettle)—Comte and Triomphe Royale, J Wood.—1st kettle. Charles X. and Unique, J. Morton. 2nd. Lady Crewe and Unique, J Heap. 3rd. Charles X. and Lustre, J. Ashworth. 4th. Charles X. and Polyphemus, S. Barlow. 5th. Lady Crewe Unique, W. Bentley. 6th. Comte, Triomphe Royale, J. Wood.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Charles X., J. Ogden
2 Rising Sun, B. Hilton
3 Magnum Bonum, S. Barlow
4 Waterloo, J. Wood
5 Catafalque, J. Ashworth
6 Lord Lilford, J. Ashton
7 Crown Prince, J. Ogden
8 Emperor Charles, T. Hetherington

Flamed Bizarres.
1 San Joe, B. Hilton
2 Charles X., J. Ashton

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3 Albion, S. Barlow
4 Lustre, J. Morton
5 Liberty, B Hilton
6 Polyphemus, J. Ashton
7 Vincent, B. Hilton
8 Surpass Lacantique, J. Ashton

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, J. Ashworth
2 Sable Monarch, J. Ashton
3 La Belle Narene, S. Barlow
4 Baguet, J. Morton
5 Mango, ditto
6 Washington, J. Wood
7 Surpassant, J. Morton
8 Maid of Athens, J. Ashton

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, S. Barlow
2 Roi de Siam, ditto
3 Violet Wallers, ditto
4 Diana Bruin, B. Hilton
5 Flora, J. Ashton
6 Unknown, B. Hilton
7 Sancta Sophia, W. Bentley
8 Princess Royal, T. Hetherington

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, J. Ashton
2 Lady Crewe, J. Heap
3 Newcastle, J. Ashton
4 Comte, ditto
5 Peto, J. Ashton
6 Duc de Bronte, T. Hetherington
7 Rose Mignone, L Fox
8 Andromeda, J. Wood

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, W. Bentley
2 Vesta, J. Morton
3 Aglaia, T. Hetherington
4 Lady Crewe, B. Hilton
5 Triomphe Royale, J. Morton
6 Lord Hill, J. Ashton
7 Seedling, S. Barlow
8 Vainqueur, J. Heap

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Unknown, J. Ashworth
2 Polyphemus, S. Barlow
3 J. Ashton

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 J. Ashton
2 Godet Parfait, J. Ashworth
3 J. Ashton

Rose Breeders.

1 Rose Celestial (seedling), S. Barlow
2 Seedling, ditto
3 Anastasia, W. Bentley

Selfs.

White Flag, B. Hilton
Min d'Or, J. Wood

TULIP SHOW.

At Mr. N. Warren's, Snipe Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne, June 3.

Judges.—Messrs. W. Matley and J. Wood, Ashton; and Mr. R. Taylor, Glodwick, near Oldham.

Maiden Prize.—Charles X., J. Warren, jun.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., W. Chadwick
2 Lord Lilford, J. Yarwood
3 Magnum Bonum, ditto
4 Surpass Catafalque, J. Moss
5 Seedling, ditto
6 Apelles, J. Dickens
7 Waterloo, J. Moss
8 Royal Gem, J. Haigh

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Polyphemus, J. Wild
2 Albion, S. Shawcross
3 Lustre, J. Wild
4 Charles X., J. Moss
5 Surpass Catafalque, J. Yarwood
6 Cyclops, J. Wild
7 Pilot, J. Hilton
8 Old Lacantique, J. Dickens

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Bienfait, A. Leech
2 Baguet, ditto
3 Beauty, J. Haigh
4 Catherina, J. Newton
5 Violet Winner, J. Moss
6 La Belle Narene, J. Newton
7 Gibbons, J. Dickens
8 Countess of Blessington, W. Waller

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Alexander Magnus, T. Leech
2 Superbe en Noir, J. Newton
3 Bienfait, J. Dickens
4 Roi de Siam, J. Dickens
5 Gibbons, ditto
6 Pyramid d'Egypt, W. Waller
7 Violet Wallers, J. Dickens
8 Prince Elie, W. Chadwick

Feathered Roses.

1 Duchess of Newcastle, S. Shawcross
2 Lady Crewe, J. Moss
3 Naylor's Jupiter, W. Chadwick
4 Heroine, J. Yarwood
5 Comte de Vergennes, W. Waller
6 Hero of the Nile, J. Newton
7 Dolittle, J. Hilton
8 Anastasia, W. Waller

Flamed Roses.

1 Rose Unique, J. Dickson
2 Aglaia, W. Chadwick
3 Triomphe Royale, J. Dickens
4 Rose Guerrier, S. Shawcross
5 Lady Crewe, J. Dickens
6 Rose Vesta, W. Chadwick
7 Mason's Matilda. G. Chadwick
8 Lord Hill, J. Dickens

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Lord Darnley, W. Chadwick
2 John O'Gaunt, G. Chadwick
3 Earl Radnor, J. Dickens
4 Surpass Catafalque, J. Haigh
5 Cato, N. Warren
6 John Evelyn, W. Chadwick

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Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Seedling, J. Haigh
2 Sancta Sophia, ditto
3 Rubens, J. Newton
4 Princess Royal, ditto
5 Midland Beauty, S. Stopford
6 Gibbons, J. Dickens
Rose Breeders.
1 Lady Stanley, W. Waller
2 Ariadne, H. B. Cowburn
3 Duchess of Newcastle, W. Chadwick
4 Anastasia, J. Wild
5 Queen, J. Warren
6 Alice, T. Leech
Selfs.
White Flag, G. Chadwick
Min d'Or, N. Warren
Seedling (yellow), J. Wild

TULIP SHOW.

At the Petres Arms, Holtmill, June 3.

Extra Premier Prizes—Charles X., T. Gibson.

Premier Prizes.—Charles X. (feathered bizarre), T Chippendale. Polyphemus (flamed bizarre), J. Houlker. Bienfait (feathered byblœmen), I. Hadfield. Bienfait (flamed byblœmen), E. Hodgson. La Belle Nannette (feathered rose), W. Broughton. La Vandicken (flamed rose), R. Houseman.

Feathered Bizarres.
1 Charles X., T. Chippendale
2 Catafalque, R. Houseman
3 Royton Hero, T. Chippendale
4 Polyphemus, T. Gibson
5 Devonshire, R. Houseman
6 Truth, E. Hodgson
7 Old Catafalque, I. Hadfield
Flamed Bizarres.
1 Polyphemus, J. Houlker
2 San Joe, T. Chippendale
3 Cyclops, J. Houlker
4 Charbonnier, T. Chippendale
5 Truth, W. Broughton
6 Lustre, J. Houlker
7 Finlayson's Hampden, W Broughton
Feathered Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, T. Chippendale
2 Gibbons, ditto
3 La Belle Narene, H. Earnshaw
4 Lord Rancliffe, T. Gibson
5 Came for Grotius, ditto
6 Beauty, R. Houseman
7 Godet Parfait, E Hodgson
Flamed Byblœmens.
1 Bienfait, J. Houlker
2 Queen of the North, ditto
3 Angelina, ditto
4 La Carges, T. Chippendale
5 Lawrence's Friend, T. Gibson
6 Midland Beauty, E. Hodgson
7 La Belle Narene, R. Holden
Feathered Roses.
1 Lady Middleton, T. Chippendale
2 La Belle Nannette, W. Broughton
3 Claudiana, E. Hodgson
4 Comte, ditto
5 Walworth, T. Gibson
6 Hero of the Nile, ditto
7 Newcastle, E. Hodgson
Flamed Roses.
1 Aglaia, E. Hodgson
2 La Vandicken, ditto
3 Triomphe, T. Chippendale
3 Du Roi, W. Broughton
5 Vainqueur, T. Chippendale
6 Rose Unique, W. Broughton
7 Lady Suffield, J. Houlker
Bizarre Breeders.
1 Seedling, J. Houlker
2 Polyphemus, T. Chippendale
Byblœmen Breeders.
1 Sancta Sophia, J. Houlker
2 Perseus, T. Chippendale
Rose Breeders.
1 Seedling, R. Birtwistle
2 Duchess of Sutherland, E. Hodgson
Selfs.
1 Min d'Or, J. Houlker
2 White Perfection, W. Broughton

PINK SHOW.

The Oxford annual pink show was held at the house of Mr. T. Davis, Cockpit Inn, Hollywell. Although the season must be considered very unfavourable, the blooms were of first-rate quality, particularly the first stand, which contained many quite new varieties, some of which, we understand, Mr Looker will send out this autumn, and they cannot fail to give satisfaction, even to the most fastidious. The prizes were awarded as under.

1st. Looker's Sir C. Napier, Warden of New College, Ophir, Ganymede, and Regulator, Colcutt's Sappho, and Turner's Beauty of Salt Hill, T. Looker.

2nd. Looker's Flora, Turner's Optima, Colcutt's Sappho, Smith's Harkforward, Bell's C. Dudley. Carter's Empress, and Charles Long, H. Bell.

3rd. Turner's Sarah, Alice Maud, British Seaman, Dean of Christ Church, Red Rover, Carter's Harry, and Charles Long, H. Carter.

4th. Looker's Flora, Kerr's Harriet, Valentia, Looker's Alpha, Smith's Diana, Othello, and Pandora, W. Plaster.

Two Prizes given in Plants by Mr. T. Looker.—1st. Charles Long and two seedlings, M. Carter. 2nd. Looker's Alpha Charles Long, and Bell's Rebecca, H. Bell. Seedling Prize.—H. Bell.

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FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,

At Mr. L. Greaves's, Red Lion Inn, Newcastle-under-Lyme, July, 1.

PINKS.

Purple-laced.

Premier.—Bradshaw's Greensides, T. Bailey.
1 Jones's Huntsman, T. Bailey
2 Bradshaw's Greensides, ditto
3 Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, do.
4 Taylor's Mango, W. Griffiths
5 Norris's Clubace, T. Bailey
6 Teebay's Thunderer, H. Eaton
7 Sambo, W. Griffiths
8 Howard's Beauty of Rochdale, H. Eaton
9 Seedling, E. Barker
10 Bow's Suwarrow, W. Griffiths

Red-laced.

Premier.—Etchell's Susanna, W. Griffiths.
1 Etchell's Susanna, T. Bailey
2 Lee's Joseph Sturge, W. Griffiths
3 Parker's Dr. Hepworth, E. Barker
4 Moorley's Dorothy, E. Barker
5 Pearson's Professor, ditto
6 Brundred's Sir William, W. Griffiths
7 Parker's Dr. Hepworth, ditto
8 Williams's Thirza, T. Bailey
9 Charlotte (seedling), R. Moorley
10 Southern's Bonny Bet, W. Griffiths

Black and White.

Premier.—Millman's Lilla, T. Bailey.
1 Millman's Lilla, E. Barker.
2 Kay's Mary, W. Griffiths
3 Bradshaw's Margaret, T. Bailey
4 Beauty of Home, H. Eaton
5 Whalley's Beauty of Clayton, T. Bailey
6 Baker's Overall, W. Griffiths
7 Norris's Blackeyed Susan, ditto
8 Seedling, R. Moorley
9 Seedling, E. Barker
10 Parry's Union, W. Griffiths

ROSES.

Best Dark.—Standard of Marengo, R. Moorley.
Best White.—Madam Hardy, R. Moorley.
Best Light.—Barrone Prevost, R. Moorley.
Pans of Three.—1. Madame Laffay, Duchess of Sutherland, and Geant des Batailles, D. Bloor. 2. Provence, Madam Hardy, and Wm. Jessy, H. Eaton.
Pans of Six.—1. Standard of Marengo, William Jessy, Barrone Prevost, Provence, Comtesse du Chatel, and Paul Ricaut, R. Moorley. 2. Madame Laffay, Provence, Comtesse du Chatel, Standard of Marengo, Madam Hardy, and Geant des Batailles, W. Griffiths.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes.—Jackson's Improved Kidney, L. Greaves.
Lettuce.—Bath Cos, H. Eaton.
Cabbage.—Enfield Market, D. Bloor.
Peas.—Sangster's No. 1, D. Bloor.
Spring Onions.—White Globe, H. Eaton
Parsley.—Myatt's Garnishing, H. Eaton.
Rhubarb.—Myatt's Victoria, H. Eaton.
Judge's.—Mr. E. Harding, Stoke-road, near Newcastle, and Mr. H. Penson, Hanchurch, near Trentham.

PINK SHOW.

At Mr. E. Barker's Cheshire Cheese Inn, Newcastle-under-Lyme, July 8.

Purple-laced.

Premier.—Jones's Huntsman, E. Barker
1 Jones's Huntsman, W. Griffiths
2 Captain Hall (seedling), E. Barker
3 Taylor's Mango, W. Griffiths
4 Bradshaw's Greensides, T. Bailey
5 Beauty of Rochdale, H. Eaton
6 Duke of St. Albans, T. Bailey
7 Faulkner's Perfection, W. Griffiths
8 Kay's Advance, H. Eaton
9 Sambo, W. Griffiths
10 Pearson's Professor, H. Eaton

Red-laced.

Premier.—Joseph Sturge, W. Griffiths
1 Lee's Joseph Sturge, T. Bailey
2 Etchell's Susanna, W. Griffiths
3 Moorley's Dorothy, D. Bloor
4 Martin's Splendens, T. Bailey
5 Williams's Thirza, E. Barker
6 Parker's Dr. Hepworth, ditto
7 Lightbody's Louis Tasso, H. Eaton
8 Brundret's Sir William, W. Griffiths
9 Slater's Lady Antrobus, T. Bailey
10 Pearson's Professor, H. Eaton

Black and White.

Prem.—Beauty of Blackburn, Griffiths
1 Hand's Pilot, R. Moorley
2 Norris's Blackeyed Susan, H. Eaton
3 Beauty of Clayton, T. Bailey
4 Lady Boldhaughton, W. Griffiths
5 Parry's Union, ditto
6 O'Brien's Virgin Queen, H. Eaton
7 Seedling, T. Bailey
8 Millman's Lilla, H. Eaton
9 Bossom's Harriet, ditto
10 Kay's Mary, W. Griffiths

Judges.—Messrs. Henry Penson and Edward Harding.

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

We are highly gratified by the establishment of the above society, calculated, as it is, to confer a lasting benefit on the country. It was much needed, and however excellent tribunals of experienced florists may be to decide on the merits of different varieties of flowers, which, comparatively speaking, are ephemeral, this one, in deciding on the merits of seedling and other fruits, defining their proper names, and publishing in its records the various synonyms by which they are known in different localities, cannot fail to be highly and pre-eminently useful. For instance, we know of many seedling apples and pears, in this county, which require bringing before a tribunal of this description, and which we hope, on some occasion, to submit to its inspection. This season we have a pear, named Fry's Seedling, which is bearing well, and promises to be a valuable dessert fruit. It is of medium size, with a flavour intermediate between the Swan's Egg and Bergamot, and downy foliage. Then we have a number of seedling apples, raised by the late John Stevens, of Stanton, and called Permanent, Domina, Improved Eve, and Lady Lennox. Again, there is a nice russet, raised by Mr. Walker, of Packington; and a seedling of Mr. Mee's, of Sheepshed, called Premier; whilst Radford Beauty, Celina, and Burton Pippin have with them an extensive provincial fame. Still all these seedlings want testing, and placing in their proper position of first, second, or third-rate. The labours of the society will thus be a safeguard against imposition, will give confidence to intending purchasers, and confer lasting benefits on all horticul-

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turists, whether large or small. Before dismissing this subject, we must say that we think there ought to be a similar society established for testing the merits of vegetables, considering the important feature they make in domestic economy, and the thousands which are annually expended on seeds, as well as the infinitesimal distinctions made between varieties, with most astounding names and characters, and the consequent disappointment, not to say disgust, which is the inevitable result. We think that a society formed of the market gardeners of the metropolis, than whom there cannot be better judges in the world, would be attended with the most beneficial results to themselves, as well as to the seed trade and society at large. We shall keep this idea prominently forward, and trust that it will be taken up with the same spirit which has established similar societies for flowers and fruit, and most certainly the metropolitan growers would have the hearty co-operation of the gardeners of the united kingdom.

TULIP REMINISCENCES.

In continuation of our few notes on tulips, we may observe, that at Mr. Allestree's, of Draycott, we saw a very nice bizarre, called *Metropolitan*. It was novel, having a perfect feather, with a narrow beam. *Abbott's Gem* was first-rate. We did not see that it was too long in the cup, but it is apt to come with seven petals. *Lac* was in fine character, and is a very beautiful flamed rose, which no well-assorted bed should be without. *Lady Egerton* was better than we ever remember to have seen it; certainly it was rather creamy at opening, but the beautiful crimson feather was laid on as evenly as in a very heavy-edged picotee. *Victoria Regina* (Groom), which in some localities is difficult to bleach, was here very good in one instance, though there were others that

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were creamy. Of other flowers not often seen in this locality, was *George Glenny*, a very delicate byblœmen, of great purity and in excellent character. At Mr. Spencer's, of Thulston, most of the fine old sorts were grown in perfection. In novelties, was *Abbott's Sir Charles Napier*, a fine feathered bizarre, in the style of Royal Sovereign, very good, but, we fear, too much like that variety: it certainly would not be distinct enough to be exhibited with it in a stand of twelve. Feathered *Polyphemuses* and first-rate *Dukes of Devonshire* we saw in several places. Allen's *Salvator Rosa* was also good. There yet seems some question about this variety having an alias, but we have not seen one yet. The bulb is very distinct, being short and thick, in the way of Surpass Catafalque. A few good flowers came under our notice on the bed of Thomas Adams, Esq., of Derby, especially a feathered *Catherine*. It was really splendid, having a heavy dark crimson feather, combined with great purity. Here was also *Black Diamond* in first-rate style, short cup, and very pure; but we should call it *Chellaston Beauty*. *Groom's Countess of Wilton* was a beautiful flamed rose, and will be an acquisition in this part of the country. *Caliph* is certainly different to Pilot. Here they were growing side by side, and the contrast was self-evident. There was a very scarce Chellaston, *Model of Perfection*, which has been nearly lost sight of. It is a first-row flower, good cup, pure, with a heavy rosy purple feather. At both Mr. Storer's and Mr. Lowe's were fine flowers of the best varieties, beautifully grown. At the former, was *Van Amburgh*, in first-rate style, being well bleached; and when in that character, though not often seen, it is a very desirable flower. At our friend Mr. Godfrey's, there was nothing particular to record, except that, as usual, his old-established varieties were excellently grown; whilst at Mr. Parkyns's, was a very neat and pretty flower, called *Gold Cup*. This flower we like, though in this case it was small. There was also a seedling rose breeder, very much

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like Lady Stanley, which Mr. P. informed us was from seed of Royal Sovereign. We do not recollect an instance of this kind occurring before, and shall be glad to hear from some of our seedling-raising friends, whether they have observed a similar case.

NEW, RARE, OR GOOD FRUITS, FLOWERS, PLANTS, TREES, AND VEGETABLES.

PURSUING our notice of seedlings which are being sold ont this autumn, as well as those which have been exhibited and received honourable mention, we will in the first place allude to dahlias, which, owing to the very fine weather, have bloomed in good style this season. Mr. C. I. Perry, of Birmingham, who, we heard, some time ago, recovered damages, in consequence of a pony having trampled down and destroyed many valuable seedlings, has, however, brought out a seedling of high merit. Of yellows, tipped with white, we have several decent varieties, but this is rich orange, with a white tip. It is named *Baron Alderson*, is an attractive flower, of medium depth and good form, and is peculiarly remarkable for its full and high centre, a requisite which many flowers pronounced first-rate by no means possess in so eminent a degree. At the National Society of Floriculture, the Rev. C. Fellowes exhibited several promising seedlings. *Nigger* (not a very euphonious designation), as its name implies, is very dark; the form is good, and as it will contrast well with more brilliant varieties, will probably be a favourite for stand showing. *Cossack* we liked better. It is beautiful in colour, and will make a splendid back-tier flower. Its colour is rich lake, or carmine. *Omar*

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Pacha will do. It is a fine flower in every respect. Colour rich crimson. And *Miss Frampton*, red, with a white tip, is an improvement on existing varieties.

During the season, some fine hollyhocks have been exhibited. Amongst them, we may notice the *Hon. Mrs. Ashley*, a most striking and beautiful variety. The flowers individually are well up in the centre, and finely formed, whilst in the aggregate they make a magnificent spike. A variety of Mr. Bircham's, named *Lemonade*, is also a very distinct sort. The colour is pale yellow, with dark markings at the base. *Omar Pacha* is in somewhat the same style, but forms a larger spike, at least as we have seen it. *Walden Rival* is a splendid thing, excellent in form, the flowers being crimson and orange. A very distinct variety. *Unique* is very striking, and must be seen to be appreciated. It makes a large spike, and the flowers are well formed and of a very attractive rich carmine. Of a different colour, but equally beautiful, is *Solfaterre*, a nice smooth flower, forming a fine spike of rather pale yellow flowers. Of course we must have a *Sir Charles Napier*, and the old admiral's name is attached to a distinct and good flower. The colour is rich marone, and it is a very stout flower, forming a fine contrast with most others grown. *Princess Alice* is another novelty. The flowers are of excellent form, and produced in a large and closely-set spike; the colour is a beautiful French white. *Izaak Walton* should be grown for its distinct character, though not so handsome as some we have enumerated. It is rather sober in colour, being bluish grey. It is, however, a finely-formed flower. *Lilac Model* has been shown in fine character, this season, and is a distinct and pretty sort. At the National, Mr. Parsons exhibited some promising flowers. *Mrs. Parsons* (good, of course, being his better half), a noble rosy salmon colour; *Argo*, one of the very best and richest yellows; and *Standard*, a finely-formed rosy buff variety.

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In fruits, *Beurré Clairgeau* is a highly bepraised pear; but coming from the respectable firm that it does, we should purchase it without hesitation. It is amazingly productive, as much so as Beurré d'Amanlis. As an early variety, rich in colour, of excellent flavour, and above the medium size, it must become a great favourite. *Duchesse de Brabant* is another fine sort, well adapted for pyramids and standards. It is extremely prolific, and of first-rate quality. We are glad to announce that there are several currants, which are improvements on existing varieties. We were always particularly desirous to induce a more extensive culture of this very useful fruit, and we should rejoice much if the same attention was directed towards raising new varieties as in the case of the gooseberry. Whilst London can reach thirty-five or thirty-six pennyweights, and is a giant, in comparison with the old Rumbullion, we see no reason why bunches of currants may not eventually become as large as the bunches of the Burgundy and other open-wall grapes. The varieties we alluded to are *Versaillaise*, with very large red and rather sweet fruit; and the *Belle de St. Gilles*, an improvement of the Cherry Red of the French. Of nuts, we still find the *Cosford* one of the best, being amazingly productive, of good size and flavour, with a shell so thin that we think even false teeth might be used to crack it with impunity. We have heard of another, which we should much like to try, though we must receive its character with caution. It is stated to be *magnifique*, but for all that, it may be a *cob*, with a shell that would require a hammer; but time will prove this, as it does more momentous matters. In apples, we have not seen much that is new. We have had a *Lord Suffield* sent to us, which weighed seventeen ounces, and measured thirteen inches round the middle, and fourteen inches and a quarter the other way. It was grown by Mr. Peter Daine, of Carrington, near Manchester, and very kindly forwarded to us by our friend, Mr. J. Holland,

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of Middleton, near Manchester. It was a splendid fruit, and we have no doubt this variety will become a general favourite, as a profitable early baking fruit, its appearance, too, being very much in its favour.

In trees and shrubs, there are some very nice things. *Berberis Darwinii* has bloomed beautifully with us, this season, and its brilliant orange blossoms and bright green handsome foliage, render it one of the best evergreen shrubs. A novelty in this family is *Berberis Neubertii*, a most singular hybrid between B. fascicularis and B. atropurpurea. We have not yet seen it bloom, and shall wait with some impatience for the development of its flowers. We have a noble tree of *Paulonia imperialis*, with large rhubarblike foliage. This season, it is covered with spikes of undeveloped flowers, and should the frost keep off, we trust that we shall have the pleasure of blooming it first in the midland counties. *Daphne atropurpurea* "improves on acquaintance." It is an evergreen, or rather an everpurple, for the foliage is as dark as the purple beech, and remains on during the winter. It is a very singular and interesting shrub. *Cupressus thujæfolia* promises to make a very beautiful tree. Foliage somewhat like the arborvitæ, but rich dark green, and much more graceful. As an evergreen tree for a lawn, it will have few compeers. *Juniperus Shollii* is a variety of red cedar, with foliage varied somewhat in the way of Juniperus Chinensis, and appears intermediate between that variety and Juniperus Bedfordiana, forming a small dense pyramidal evergreen tree, of great beauty.

In perennial plants adapted for bedding purposes, shrubby calceolarias have taken a prominent position. There is a novelty in this class, which we think will prove acceptable. It has very narrow foliage; whence its specific name, *ericoides*, or heathlike. Its habit is compact, and it bears a multitude of pale yellow flowers. Decidedly one of the most interest-

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ing of its tribe. We must not, however, in our admiration of this species, forget Mr. Cole's white variety, called *Purity*, which is also very pretty, and will doubtless be much in demand, good white bedding plants being much wanted. We have been gratified, this season, with many varieties. Amongst some of the best, we may mention *Crimson King* and *Golden Chain* as being very effective.

In roses, we have a novelty selling out by Messrs. Wood & Son, of Maresfield. We have seen a drawing of it, and if it comes up to that, it will do. It has, however, been exhibited in London, and very much admired. It is the first of a new class, namely, a climbing hybrid perpetual. At all events, it will make a first-rate pillar rose, giving gorgeous crimson blossoms through the autumn months. Then we have another new climbing rose, raised by the late John Williams, of Pitmanston, a most indefatigable horticulturist, who raised many good things by perseveringly hybridizing. His Pitmanston Greengage Gooseberry, Pitmanston Russet Nonpareil, Pitmanston Orange Nectarine, and numerous others, which at the moment we do not recollect, attest his success. The rose is called *Williams's Evergreen Climbing Rose*, and is the result of one of his experiments at fertilization, having fecundated one of the strong-Ayrshire roses with a yellow tea-scented China. It partakes strongly of the character of both parents, having the growth of the one and the beautifully-formed buds of the other. The flowers are creamy white, when open, and powerfully fragrant. It is likely to be one of the very best climbing roses we have. In Bourbon roses, we have a very nice dark purple, *Adelaide Bougere*, rich and velvety, with thick and nicely-formed petals. *Francois Henrique*, said to be a fine new dark crimson, we do not like. having bloomed it, and found it by no means satisfactory. *Reveil*, however, is much better. It is finely-formed, and is a rich velvety crimson. For

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our next number, we have a letter on roses, from Malines. In the interim, we have taken the liberty of extracting from the pages of the *Florist*, Mr. Rivers's remarks on the roses lately introduced. No one has more experience in this class of flowers than Mr. R., and we are sure his observations will be read by all who are lovers of them, and "who is not?"

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

THE ROSES OF 1854.

[*From the Florist.*]

NEVER since roses have been cultivated in England to any extent has such a fatal season as the past been experienced by the growers. The severe frost in winter killed nearly all the buds of the tea-scented and other delicate roses, and numbers of the plants. The dry weather in March and April destroyed from half to two-thirds of the stocks planted in December; and the frost on the 25th of April so injured the young and tender shoots, which were soon after smothered with aphides, that scarcely any roses bloomed at their usual seasons, in June and July. It was not till August that the hybrid perpetuals showed themselves in character, and since then they have flowered well. As usual with a favoured class of roses, like the above, we are inundated with (so-called) novelties from France,—plenty of variety in names, lacking, however, difference in character; but there are some few really good and distinct, and quite worthy of a few words in your "pleasant pages," and so I will endeavour to describe them.

Hybrid perpetuals are *the* roses of the day; they seem destined to supply all our out-door wants at

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least, and one is never tired of their varied beauties. There were forty or more roses of this class alone, with new names, introduced last winter and spring, most of them of the same unvarying tints of "rose," "pale rose," and so on; many of them really good, but not differing enough from well-established varieties to make them acceptable to the amateur. There are, however, a few, and very few, distinct, good, and acceptable to all lovers of roses; and who is not? Holding the first rank among the few, is Jules Margottin, which is quite worthy of its descriptive English name, Perpetual Brennus; its very vigorous habit, and large finely-shaped light vivid crimson flowers, remind us much of that very fine old hybrid China rose, Brennus. For growing on its own roots, and pegging down, for a pillar rose, and as a standard, it is equally adapted, and will soon be in every rose garden. Sir John Franklin and Gloire de la France are of the race of the Geant des Batailles, and two fine robust growing roses; the former bright red, the latter more approaching to deep crimson; they are two fine varieties. General Jacqueminot is, like the above, one of our new roses, and most striking, from the size of its flowers, which are of rich shaded crimson. It has, however, two faults—its flowers are not sufficiently double, and its habit of growth is rather slender and delicate. We now require roses perfect in all points; large and double flowers, opening freely, fine healthy foliage, and a vigorous hardy habit. Duchess of Norfolk, which you have figured in the present number, will probably form a nice pillar rose. Now we come to a host of new names applied to roses, with shades of rose colour and pink, such as Alphonse de Lamartine, Colonel de Rougemont, Madame Osmage (both varieties of the race of Baronne Prevost), Ceres, Gloire de Parthenay, La Ville de St. Denis, Lady Milsom, Madame Hector Jacquin (a large and vigorous growing rose), Madame Harriet Stowe, Aline Gibbion, Mademoiselle Quetel, Marie de

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Bourges, Sephora, Triomphe en Beaute, James Veitch, Leon Plee, and several others pretty enough —for what rose is not?—but with very little distinction in their characters. Gervaise Rouillard is a cheat, it is the old hybrid China, General Lamoriciere. Some few of the roses among the hybrid perpetuals introduced in 1853 have bloomed this season in great perfection, and have proved themselves worthy of a place in every rose garden. Such are Prince Leon Hotschouberg, or simply Prince Leon, which is a shorter and better name: and Paul Dupuy, two charming roses. Alexandrina Bachmeteff, with its brilliant carmine flowers, is also a great acquisition; as is another rose, with a tiresome Russian name, Prince Chipetouzikoff, with brilliant deep red flowers. It is not perhaps generally known how those crabbed names came to be applied to roses, by the French florists, so that a word or two about it may not be amiss. Before the war, Paris was the great resort of the Russian nobility, who, in their visits to the rose gardens near Paris, to make purchases, had new seedling roses, to use the French term, "dedicated" to them, *i. e.*, in plain English, named after them. In return for this honour, orders were given and presents made. I have drank out of a gold enamelled cup, the gift of a Russian Princess; and with the same florist, I saw a handsome bracelet, and two or three showy rings, the gifts of the Russian great folks. To return to the roses of 1853; Adam Paul is too double and large to open well in our climate. Souvenir de Leveson Gower is a magnificent crimson and first-rate rose; and Triomphe de Paris, very dark crimson, has also bloomed beautiful. Lady Stuart, of the same colour, is not equal to Madame Rivers. Victoria has not opened well, and seems tender, as it suffered much by the winter. Archimede, Volta, and Ferdinand Deppe, are good rose-coloured and pink roses, but not distinct enough. Among Bourbon roses, we have but one this season really worthy of attention, viz., La Quintinie. This is

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most superb, its deep crimson flowers are of the most perfect shape; but it has one fault, it is delicate in its habit, and requires the highest cultivation. Francois Herincq, also a new rose of this class, is too much like Prince Albert, and Surpasse Comice de Seine et Marne.

In tea-scented roses, we have one really fine and distinct, viz., Gloire de Dijon. In its foliage, habit, and shape, and size of its flowers, it is almost an exact resemblance of the Bourbon rose, Souvenir de la Malmaison, and, like that fine rose, it requires dry warm weather to open its flowers in perfection. Its perfume is tea-like and powerful, and in colour it is quite unique, being tinted with fawn, salmon, and rose, and difficult to describe. Auguste Vachn, is also a new tea rose, perhaps too much like Noisette Optima in colour and habit to be highly esteemed. It is long since we have had any new and good noisette roses; but this season a new variety, called Augusta, has been sent from America, which has bloomed in great perfection. It is of the race of Solfaterre, and resembles it closely in habit; its flowers are, however, more double and globular, remarkably elegant in shape, and in the centre of its flower it is a little deeper in colour. Another new noisette rose is Marie Charge, of the Optima class. Its flowers are large, more brilliant in colour than that well-known rose, and its habit seems very vigorous and hardy.

THOMAS RIVERS.

Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

FRENCH BOUQUETS.

THE marchands de Bouquets are a very numerous and thriving fraternity in Paris. In all the principal streets, and particularly in the arcades and passages near the theatres and places of public amusement,

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are to be found their attractive shops, where nose-gays may be procured, at from ten sous to twenty francs, throughout every day of the year. A still more numerous, yet humbler class, sell in the public streets, and at the railway stations, roses, violets, carnations, camellias, in fact, every flower in its natural season, from January to December, at from one to five sous (one halfpenny to twopence-half-penny). The amount spent by the Parisians in this way is almost incredible; thousands of persons obtain a living by selling these halfpenny bouquets. To understand this, it must be borne in mind that the manners of the continent are different from those in England; that in Catholic countries, almost every day is the "*jour de fete*" of some saint; and that in France, it is the custom for everyone to present flowers, either growing or cut, to their friends, on their birth-day, or "*jour de fete.*" So universal is this, that a duchess gladly accepts the friendly homage, and the meanest inhabitant of a garret feels neglected, if not insulted, without it.

To meet this demand, there is a distinct and numerous class of florists, occupying small gardens, from a quarter to one acre of ground, adjoining the city walls, in the Faubourgs St. Denis, Menilmontant, Charonne, Marceau, and St. Jacques, whose sole occupation is the cultivation of these flowers. Each has his "*specialité*," which he grows upon a large scale, and can afford to sell at a cheap rate. Every-thing is done upon a most economical plan. To save expense, the plant-houses are built two, three, or four feet below the surface, exactly like span-roofed pits; the front or south lights are glass, the back or north is generally covered over with deal boards. This enables them to cover the whole thickly over with leaves, in winter, and effectually prevents the frost from entering. There is not one in fifty of these houses ever warmed by any other means. Fuel is very expensive in Paris, and it would not answer their purpose to be at the expense of fire heat. Tan

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is abundant, and procured at a reasonable price, and it is everywhere used in these gardens for bottom heat. With these florists, you do not find any large collections, or general stock; few grow more than ten or fifteen kinds of plants, to bloom in succession, that their energies may be concentrated upon one thing at a time, and, as might be expected, what they do is done well. The "*specialité*" of one consists of camellias, azaleas, roses, orange trees, and hard-wooded plants; another of ericas, epacris, pelargoniums, &c.; another of violets, carnations, pansies, &c. Thus an immense quantity is raised. It is no uncommon thing to find in one of these little gardens ten or fifteen thousand camellias; in another as many roses or crassulas. I am quite sure that for Midsummer-day (Fete de St. Jean), there are not less than sixty or seventy thousand plants of Crassula coccinea cultivated about Paris. The white chrysanthemum, especially the new white anemone-flowering varieties, are now largely cultivated for cut flowers, in December. The Rose du Roi (crimson perpetual) is almost the only one sold in the markets. I have seen it in bloom during every month of the year. Its delicious fragrance, fine colour, form, and habit, render it decidedly more useful than any of the China and Provence kinds. The Indica minor, alba, and coccinea, are also extensively grown for the marchands de bouquets; they are, with the violet, chrysanthemum, and camellia, their grand resort for the winter.

I have often been struck with the difference between the bouquets of London, Paris, and Brussells. In London, it is no uncommon thing to see beautiful Stanhopeas, oncidiums, and other orchids, forming part of a bouquet; in Brussells, also, you see some fine rare flowers, but nothing of the kind is to be seen in Paris. In the latter town, in general, they are composed of the common flowers of the season; they are, however, nevertheless, very pretty—the secret lies in the grouping. Most decidedly the

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French understand harmony of colour and tasteful arrangement better than any other people. It is thus they make up an elegant nosegay for a mere trifle; even in November, December, and January, you may always procure them at a moderate price. This is, no doubt, in part, owing to the climate, but in no little degree to the means used in retarding or prolonging the bloom. During these months, there is a plentiful supply of violets, cyclamens, epacris, laurustinus, white chrysanthemums, fairy roses, Chinese primulas, oranges, ericas, and camellias; and as the national colours are ever dominant with the Parisians, they make up very pretty tricolour bouquets of fairy roses, violets and Primula sinensis, or white chrysanthemums.

Paris Correspondent of the Gardeners' Chronicle.

PELARGONIUMS.

As you have already given the mode of growing these useful plants for exhibition, perhaps the following remarks on their cultivation for the greenhouse of a private gentleman may not prove unacceptable, as my mode of treatment, though nothing new, has invariably been followed by an abundant head of bloom and healthy foliage. After the plants have flowered the first time, they are removed into the open air, placed upon cinder ashes, to protect them against the worms, and are cut down the beginning of August. In a fortnight, the shoots will have pushed to about an inch, when I proceed to repot them. My practice is to shake off all the old soil, and to prune the roots to within three inches of the stem. This process, I consider, favours the production of a fine head of bloom, by checking the rapid and vigorous growth of new wood. The plants soon recover, and the destruction of the old roots is succeeded by new and active fibres from the points where

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the knife had been employed. The following compost I use for the winter potting, viz., two barrowsful of loam, two of leaf mould, half a barrowful of peat, with one peck of silver sand. The plants are placed where they are partially shaded, receiving a little of the morning sun only. In three weeks, they will have made new roots sufficient to bear removing to a more open situation, where they will receive plenty of light and air. Here they remain till the weather becomes wet and cold, when I remove them into the greenhouse. I place them as near the glass as possible, and admit all the air I can, to prevent their being drawn, and water sparingly during the winter months. In October, I stop the shoots to within four or five inches of the stem. In the beginning of December, I prepare to repot for blooming, using the following soil, which is richer and stronger than the compost previously employed: To two barrowsful of loam I add two of cow dung one year old (I prefer it of this age, as it affords nourishment a greater length of time), half a barrowful of leaf mould, and one peck of silver sand. If the loam be heavy and strong, I add peat, but this is not necessary if the loam is of a sandy nature. I give good drainage, by using plenty of potsherds, and shift into pots a size larger than the plants were previously grown in—either eight or nine-inch ones. I rub off nearly all the old soil, and fill up with the compost above described. The house is kept closed for a fortnight or three weeks, and when I see the plants begin to root freely, I give air as the weather permits. The temperature of the house ranges from forty to fifty degrees Fahr. When the plants are growing freely, I keep them well tied out, forming them into broad and uniform heads. I begin to syringe the plants about the middle of February, choosing the afternoon of a fine day for the purpose, and continue this operation twice a week, till the plants begin to show their bloom. During the months of February, March, and April, I water

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twice a week, and increase the quantity as the weather becomes warmer. I fumigate for greenfly and shade from the midday sun.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

VILLA AND SUBURBAN GARDENING.

LIQUID manure, a few years ago, was unknown to gardeners, and in agriculture, at present, almost entirely so; few even now believe in the great virtue it possesses in promoting a healthy and vigorous development. Let any one take two beds of cabbages, or two rows of roses, and feed the one liberally with liquid manure, and let the other have ordinary care. It will soon be found that the manured cabbages will be twice the size of the unmanured, and at the same time crisp and delicious, while the others will be tough and stringy; while the roses fed with liquid manure will scarcely be recognized as the same kinds.

Liquid manure is within the reach of every small gardener who possesses a supply of water and a common watering pot, or an old barrel. Idle boys are plentiful enough near London, and will gladly pick off any adjacent common a bushel of sheep's dung for a shilling, which is all that is required. If this cannot be procured, guano can be had, which is excellent. One pound of guano to six gallons of water may be applied with impunity to the roots of most plants, and to much advantage. Annuals, pelargoniums, verbenas, calceolarias, and similar ornamental plants, will be astonishingly improved by a watering twice a week, especially in dry weather, when these things suffer, and in consequence flower weakly. The culinary department will also repay the cultivator for similar attention. Cauliflowers, celery, cabbage, &c. can scarcely have too much liquid manure. Twice every week will, however, do immense service. There is no better prevention of mildew on peas than this—the crop will be greatly

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increased by its application, and the quality infinitely raised.

To apply liquid manure with advantage, a little ordinary care is required. It should always be borne in mind, that during warm and dry weather, plants absorb fluids faster than when it is dull and cool, and that they perspire most in a dry warm atmosphere. If the supply at the root, therefore, is not kept up, then they become deteriorated in quality, and the produce is considerably lessened. The common practice of pouring manure water immediately around the stem of a plant should be avoided, for two reasons: first, the roots which absorb most, are in, or are approaching the centres of the spaces between the rows, therefore to be benefited by it, the liquid should be distributed there. Another and very important matter, in common with vegetable culture, should not be lost sight of—by applying the liquid in a limited circle round the plants individually, the roots have less inducement to travel far in search of food, hence they are fewer in number; but if their food is placed at a greater yet reasonable distance from them, they will seek it out, fresh roots will be emitted, and they will have a much larger field to feed in. It is by attention to such trivial matters as these, that one man's turnips are worthy of his mutton, while another's are unworthy of his hog tub.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

Auricula growers are aware that they cannot propagate their plants at pleasure, but must often wait patiently for years before they can get an offset from a favourite variety. By the following plan, I have often got prime young plants of such as I wished to increase. When I repot, about the first week in August, those with long tap roots I cut well back; the part of the root I thus cut from favourites, I pot, leaving nothing but the cut part above the earth. I then give them a little water, with a syringe or watering pan, and in two or three weeks, perhaps as many buds will make their appearance round the old

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root. These grow very fast, and may be potted singly, in autumn or spring, according to their size.—Y. Z.

THE VEGETABLE WORLD IN THE ARCTIC REGIONS.—Mr. Seeman, the naturalist of Kellett's arctic expedition, states a curious fact respecting the condition of the vegetable world during the long day of the arctic summer. Although the sun never sets while it lasts, plants make no mistake when, if it be not night, it ought to be; regularly as the evening hours approach, and when the midnight sun is several degrees above the horizon, they droop their leaves and sleep, even as they do at sunset in more favoured climes. "If man," observes Mr. Seeman, "should ever reach the pole, and be undecided which way to turn when his compass has become sluggish, his timepiece out of order, the plants which he may happen to meet will show him the way; their sleeping leaves tell him that midnight is at hand, and that at that time the sun is standing in the north."

CULTIVATION OF THE CINERARIA.—As soon as the seeds are gathered, the old plants should be cut down, or partly so, as in many instances the crowns of the plant rot if cut too close to the surface. Now that they are cut down, remove them to some shady place (a north border being preferable), until they throw up young shoots, when they should be potted into larger pots, in a light compost, or planted out in the open ground, in a light soil, where they will give strong cuttings, and from these only can good specimens be obtained. When they have grown about an inch or two, remove the cuttings, and place them in a compost prepared for the purpose—composed of equal parts of loam, leaf-mould, and silver sand, taking care to well drain the pots with potsherds. When rooted (which will be in about a fortnight), pot off into thumbs or small sixties, in a nice light soil. Should first-rate plants be wanted, every

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care will now be required to keep them in a growing and healthy condition, to which end they should be shifted every few weeks, until they receive their final potting, which should be about January. Every care should be taken that they do not get pot-bound in the small pots, as that will throw them into a blooming state immediately. The compost we would recommend for exhibition purposes, and for large plants generally, would be two parts of good turfy loam, and equal parts of well decomposed cow-dung and leaf-mould, with an admixture of silver or river sand. As the plants grow, take care to thin out all superfluous leaves, so as to admit the air freely and prevent mildew, which is a great pest, and which can only be removed by applying sulphur to the parts affected. The cineraria should only be stopped once, as the second operation tends to produce weak growth. As soon as the shoots are long enough, tie out wide, keeping the outer branches as low as possible, and place them close to the glass, which will insure dwarf and compact plants. We had nearly forgotten the drainage, which should be of rough leaf-mould and potsherds mixed, which will keep the roots in a white and healthy state; fumigate occasionally, to prevent the greenfly; and water very sparingly through the winter months, increasing it as the spring advances, when weak liquid manure may occasionally be given.—*Florist.*

NOTES ON SEEDLING GOOSEBERRIES

SUBMITTED TO MANCHESTER MEETING, AUGUST 5TH, 1854.

[*From the Gooseberry Growers' Register.*]

Mr. Charles Leicester's red seedling, *Masterpiece*, strong-veined, square-formed berry of the London build, the unripe part of the berry a very dark green, when ripe a very dark dull red, a little rough; the greater part of the berries three and four-veined ones; the best red on this occasion, and one of the most promising sorts we have seen. Quite distinct.

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Mr. Samuel Lomax's red seedling, a bright rough red, with broad green shotted veins, a good formed berry, somewhat resembling Companion towards the nose, with broader and more prominent veins. Distinct.

Mr. John Pennington's red seedling, *Kossuth*, a very rough long-formed berry, darker in colours than Bangor. Distinct.

Mr. Henry Pearson's red seedling, *Recommend*, a smooth berry, in form of Dan's Mistake, the veins level with the surface, which are a pinkish red, showing a dark under colour through the surface. Distinct.

Thomas Bell's red seedling, *Regular*, a long-formed bright red berry, a little rough. Distinct.

William Berry's red seedling, a dark rough red, almost purple, the unripe part of the berry an olive green. Distinct.

G. S.—Try your red second year of bearing again, and let us have a better specimen.

Mr. Prophet.—Your red *Diadem* is extra fine, but so closely resembles one handed to us for Clayton, that we should recommend you to try it again.

Mr. George Crompton.—Your berry, *Hanchurch*, let out by Mr. Biddulph, in November last, and the *Conquering Hero* you sent, are imperfect specimens, but apparently all one sort.

Mr. Livesley's yellow seedling, *Criterion*, a fine dark yellow, something in colour of Drill, a little rough, an oval-formed berry, with its veins level with the surface. Extra fine and distinct.

Mr. William Rhodes's yellow seedling, a long smooth-veined berry, in form of a long two-veined London, colour of Marigold. Distinct.

Mr. Joseph Prophet's yellow *Heroine*, something of Catherina, but quite smooth, a light yellow, with a shade of white about its broad green veins, something in colour of Goldfinder. Distinct. This fine variety was also handed to us by a person from Stoke, who states that the stock is in more than a dozen hands. We give the above description, but we beg to remind our friends that it cannot be let out in the usual way, and request that all persons in possession of the same will show it in the above name for the future.

Mr. John Dickinson's yellow seedling, something in form of Catherina, very rough, with light yellow veins, the remainder of the berry a bright orange yellow. Distinct.

Mr. Swift.—Your yellow, *Great Gun*, to our last year's description, the berry somewhat finer.

Mr. John Dean's green seedling, *Washington*, a long smooth dark green, of an oval form, with many narrow veins. Distinct.

Mr. Ezekiel Jackson's green seedling, *General Jackson*, a promising square-formed berry, very rough, of a bright lively green colour. Distinct.

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Mr. Joseph Leicester's green seedling, *Tantivy*, a smooth light green. Distinct.

Mr. James Wolstenholme's green seedling, *Union Green*, a smooth, veiney, late berry. Distinct.

Mr. George Gill's green seedling, a long smooth berry, of the Eagle form, colour of Weathercock, a late hard sort. Distinct.

Mr. John Bayley's (of Biddulph) green seedling, *Sir Charles Napier*, a smooth dark green, with light green veins, a fine three-veined berry, something in form of Green River, a late sound sort. Distinct.

Mr. Joseph Dutton's green seedling, *Romper*, a smooth light green. Distinct.

Mr. William Rhodes's green seedling, a long smooth light green, in form of Queen of Trumps. Distinct.

Mr. George Scarratt's green seedling, *Arthur*, a light mottled, quite smooth, in form of Repeal. Distinct.

Mr. George Webster's green seedling, *Gallant Doctor*, a late, long, smooth berry. Distinct.

J. P.—Your green somewhat resembles Thumper; try it again.

Mr. Robert Walley's green seedling, *Witchcraft* a smooth, dull, muddy green, a strong-looking well-formed berry. Distinct.

Mr. Thomas Nichols's white seedling, *Faithful*, a long smooth berry, in form of Drill, a dark white colour, a late sound sort. Distinct.

Mr. William Wolstenholme's white seedling, *White Gate*, a long berry, in form of Tally-ho, quite smooth, and not so white in colour. Distinct.

Mr. Thomas Hutton's white seedling, a long smooth dull white, very late. Distinct.

Mr. Thomas Hollin's white seedling, *Elizabeth*, a smooth square-veined berry, in form of a two-veined London, something in colour of Freedom. Fine and distinct.

G. B.—We should like to see your white again.

Mr. Charles Leicester's (of Plumbley) white seedling, *Mischievous*, a dark muddy white, in form of Leader, a little rough. Fine and distinct.

George Ryder, Nottingham,
Charles Leicester, Macclesfield.
John Daine, Carrington,
Thos. Lanceley, Delamere Forest,
Thos. Pilkington, Scarisbrick,
Joseph Leicester, Tabley,
} *Judges.*

John Holland, Middleton, *President*

James Whittaker, Blackley, *Treasurer.*

Samuel Barlow, Stake Hill, *Secretary.*

We are happy to say that this show was numerously attended, and many of the seedlings exhibited were of first-class merit;

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but we regret to say we cannot recommend all the seedlings submitted to this meeting, a number of them being too small and imperfect for us to give a correct description. We trust that seedling raisers will see the necessity of sending good specimens, in order that a full description may appear in the book.

It is particularly requested that all seedlings intended to be let out, be sent to this meeting on the day previous to the show, accompanied with the name intended to be given to them, and directed to Mr. James Whittaker, to be left at the Sir John Falstaff, Market-place, Manchester; as no seedlings will in future be noticed in the book as going out, before being submitted to this meeting.

OBITUARY.—On the 11th of October, departed this life, MR. RICHARD DIXON, of Bury New-road, Manchester, one of the most enthusiastic cultivators of the tulip we ever had the happiness to know. His loss, we are sure, will be severely felt and deplored by his friends and all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. Indefatigable in procuring the best varieties of tulips, his collection comprised everything that was first-rate; neither trouble nor expense was spared to render it as complete as possible. His urbanity and kind-heartedness were boundless, and in every station of life, he was conspicuous. It is our sad but pleasing duty to pay this last mournful tribute to his many but unostentatious excellencies.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Please to name four tulips in each class, which you consider best to save seed from, and the varieties best to cross them with. J. P.

ROSES.

Heroine + Kate Connor.
Kate Connor + Mary Lamb.
Anastasia + Paul's Rose.
Scarlet le Grand + Catherine.

BIZARRES.

Vivid + Royal Sovereign.
Polyphemus + Pilot.
Duk.Devonshire+Polyphemus
Pilot + Willison's King.

BYBLŒMENS.

Salvator Rosa (Gibbons) + Violet Alexander.
Salvator Rosa (Brown) + Royal George.
Thalia + First-rate.
Chellaston Beauty + Queen of Sheba.

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SIX FINE NEW PELARGONIUMS.—K. P.—The following are rather expensive, but they are of first-rate quality. You certainly would have a good chance with them at the exhibition you name.

Fair Ellen.—A splendid white flower, with large rich marone blotch on upper petals.

Topsy.—Top petals nearly black, fine and distinct white centre, lower petals pink.

Attraction.—A beautiful variety. Upper petals covered with rich marone, lower, bright crimson.

Phaeton.—First-rate, smooth, and of fine form. Upper petals dark, with margin of crimson; lower, a peculiar shade of rich and brilliant crimson.

Vesper.—An attractive variety, which will have a host of admirers. The upper and lower petals are spotted with crimson, on a white ground. This will make a fine contrast.

Wonderful.—Also a beautiful flower. Very dark top petals, with margin of deep pink; lower, a rich pinky salmon, with white centre. This flower is also of excellent form.

PEARS.—B. T.—Beurré d'Amanlis is not a long keeper; still it bears well, and is a hardy sort. It is, however, rather straggling in its habit, and requires room. You will find the Hessel a good market pear for your locality.

PANSIES.—C. S.—You ask for twelve of the best and newest. In our report of the Regent's Park tulip show, we mentioned the names of some we saw there; but we will refer to our notes, made during the season, and see what information we can give you on this head.

Father Gavazzi is one of the best. Rich purple marone belting, of good form, with a fine centre, on yellow ground.

Royal Albert.—This we noticed at Regent's Park. The edges are remarkably smooth, it lies very flat, and looks like a piece of shaded purple velvet.

Earl Mansfield is, we believe, a Scotch flower. Very large, and excellent in form, the ground colour white, with a stout broad margin of rich purple. There is a distinctive character about this flower, which renders it very desirable.

Lord Palmerston, a yellow-ground flower, is another gem. The lower petals are beautifully and evenly belted with purplish marone, the upper petals being of the same shade.

Memnon is a splendid purple self, of the right sort. For a good contrast, you may take

Comet.—This has a striking-coloured belting and upper petals. The colour approaches near to crimson, and with its well-defined eye and general good qualities, must be a favourite.

Duchess of Sutherland is a sweet variety. White ground, belted with a pleasing shade of purple; the centre large and distinct.

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Royal Visit you should have, though not quite so new as some we have mentioned. White very pure, good eye, and evenly belted with intense purple, the top petals being the same colour.

Absalom is distinct, and has a good form to recommend it. Yellow ground, with broad margin of chocolate. A very fine sort.

Marquis of Bath.—Evidently raised from the Duke of Norfolk, which flower we think it beats. It is very fine in all respects.

Satisfaction.—A variety which will give *satisfaction*, wherever grown. The eye is peculiarly bold, and the belting rich and novel. Claret, on bright yellow ground. We cannot better close our list than with the

Rev. I. H. Gossett, one of the best. Large, smooth, of fine form, and the belting rich, being nearly like black velvet, on a rich orange ground.

We have the notes of a few more, really good varieties, but if you get these twelve, and grow them well, you will be able to take a prominent position at any exhibition.

HOLLYHOCKS.—S. W.—Mr. Roake's seedlings are attracting attention. They appear to be of a fine breed. They are,

Souvenir, which gives a splendid spike of light rose.

Orestes.—A bold, finely formed crimson.

Lemon Queen.—A delicate colour. Very pretty and attractive.

Ovid.—Deep rose, shaded salmon.

Emperor.—A very bold deep rose.

Eva.—A chaste light pink

Hope.—A light scarlet.

Emily.—Fine light rose.

We can recommend these to S. W. All are conspicuous for their fine spikes of close-set well-formed flowers.

POTATOES.—THOMAS HENSON.—We can only corroborate what everyone says. The Fluke Kidney is extraordinarily fine this season; and though no potatoes have suffered much in this neighbourhood, still the Fluke appears less affected than any other. We have to thank Mr. Hextall, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, for some very fine specimens, part from the field, and others grown in a garden. We put part of them through the cooking test, and found them excellent in every respect. The reports of its cropping capabilities are very good, wherever grown.

PROPAGATING PIT.—P.—You may strike your cuttings very well on a common flue, by placing material in it in which to plunge your cutting pots. It requires great attention, as too much heat is given at one time and too little at another, but where care is taken, success will ensue. Cement tanks are often leaky, and give much trouble.

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FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

GREAT SOUTH LANCASHIRE TULIP SOCIETY.

At the Nottingham Castle Inn, Denton, June 3.

Judges.—Messrs. U. Chadwick, D. Potts, and W. Hall.

A set of silver spoons was awarded to Mr. J. Naylor, for the best stand of two rectified flowers, viz., Charles X. and Pilot.

Feathered Premier.—Charles X., J. Peacock, Esq.

Flamed Premier.—San Joe, J. Peacock, Esq.

Breeder Premier.—Nulli Secundus (seedling), J. Naylor.

Maiden Prize.—Charles X., J. Irwin, Esq.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., J. Peacock, Esq.
2 Sidney, J. Naylor
3 Pass Catafalque, J. Peacock, Esq.
4 Masterpiece, J. Turner, Esq.
5 Duke of Devonshire, J. Naylor
6 Lord Lilford, ditto
7 Elizabeth, J. Turner, Esq.
8 Rufus, ditto

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, J. Peacock, Esq.
2 Polyphemus, T. Leech
3 Pilot, J. Naylor
4 Leondas, ditto
5 Charles X., J. Peacock, Esq.
6 Masterpiece, J. Naylor
7 Paul Pry, J. Peacock, Esq.
8 Albion, R. Peacock, Esq

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Baguet, J. Naylor
2 Queen of the North, H. Parsonage
3 Violet Quarto, J. Naylor
4 Edgar, ditto
5 Bienfait, ditto
6 Purple Perfection, J. Turner, Esq.
7 Duchess of Sutherland, J. Naylor
8 British Hero, ditto

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Lord Vernon, R. Peacock, Esq.
2 Van Amburgh, T. Leech
3 Magnus, W. Peacock, Esq.
4 Violet Wallers, ditto
5 Flora, ditto
6 Orleans, J. Peacock, Esq.
7 Incomparable, W. Peacock, Esq.
8 Monarch, R. Peacock, Esq.

Feathered Roses.

1 Heroine, J. Peacock, Esq.
2 Rosy Queen, J. Turner, Esq.
3 Lady Crewe, J. Turner, Esq.
4 Joan of Arc, J. Naylor
5 Arlette, W. Peacock, Esq.
6 Bion, J. Naylor
7 Comte, ditto
8 Martha, ditto

Flamed Roses.

1 Aglaia, W. Peacock, Esq.
2 Triomphe Royale, ditto
3 Thalestris, J. Naylor
4 Unique, J. Turner, Esq.
5 Alpha, J. Peacock, Esq
6 Lord Hill, J. Baxendale, Esq.
7 Lady Stanley, J. Peacock, Esq.
8 Quarto, R. Peacock, Esq.

Bizarre Breeders.

1 Nulli Secundus, J. Naylor
2 Hamilton, ditto
3 Willison's King, ditto
4 Grace Darling, H. Parsonage
5 Cato, J. Baxendale, Esq.
6 Pilot, W. Peacock, Esq.

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Van Amburgh, T. Leech
2 Queen, W. Peacock, Esq.
3 Martha, J. Naylor
4 Sancta Sophia, ditto
5 Orleans, ditto
6 Miss Forest, J. Peacock, Esq.

Rose Breeders.

1 Lady Stanley, W. Peacock, Esq.
2 Juliet, ditto
3 Seedling, J. Peacock, Esq.
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Magnificent, J. Naylor
6 Amelia, ditto

Selfs.

Min d'Or, W. Peacock, Esq.
White Perfection, J. Naylor

TULIP MEETING,

At Mr. Peter Eaton's, the Cotton Plant, Capel-street, Bedford Leigh.

Maiden Pans.—1. Magnum Bonum, Charles X., Surpass Lacantique, Rose Unique, Vesta, and La Belle Narene, R. Yates. 2. Charles X., Lord Lilford, Walworth, Mango, Dolittle, and Wallers, J. Turner.

Pans.—1. Charles X., Duke of Devonshire, Baguet, Lady Flora Hastings, Heroine, and Rose Unique, J. Postlethwaite. 2. Lustre de Beaute, Mango, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, Rose Unique, R. Ratcliffe. 3. Charles X., Lustre de Beaute, Mango, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Rose Unique, J. Tyldsley. 4.

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Charles X., Lustre de Beaute, Bienfait, Bienfait, Lady Crewe, and Rose Unique, J. Eaton. 5. Magnum Bonum, Charbonnier, Bienfait, Queen Charlotte, Heroine, and Rose Unique, R. Mort. 6. Charles X., Albion, Baguet, Bienfait, Heroine, and Rose Unique, R. Prescott. 7. Charles X., San Joe, Mango, seedling, Heroine, and Rose Unique, E. Green. 8. Charles X., Surpass Lacantique, Lancashire Hero, Queen Adelaide, Heroine, and Rose Unique, R. Clegg. 9. Crown Prince, Lustre de Beaute, Mango, Wallers, Duc de Bronte, and Rose Unique, J. Hindley.

Pans of Breeders.—1. Charbonnier, Grand Superb, and Anastasia, J. Postlethwaite. 2. Bizarre Breeder, Gibbons's Byblœmen, and Lady Lilford, R. Clegg. 3. Truth, Gibbons's Byblœmen, and Lady Lilford, T. Belshaw.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Apollo, J. Postlethwaite
2 Charles X., R. Hindley
3 Surpass Catafalque, R. Prescott
4 Crown Prince, J. Tyldsley
5 Magnum Bonum, E. Green
6 Trafalgar, D. Pasquel
7 Seedling, J. Eaton
8 Lord Lilford, R. Clegg
9 Firebrand, R. Ratcliffe

Flamed Bizarres.

1 Surpass Lacantique, D. Pasquel
2 Polyphemus, T. Belshaw
3 Lustre de Beaute, J. Postlethwaite
4 Duke of Devonshire, R. Clegg
5 Lord Nelson, R. Ratcliffe
6 San Joe, R. Clegg
7 Albion, P. Hilton
8 Pilot, R. Yates
9 George IV., R. Hindley
10 Dutch Catafalque, R. Prescott

Feathered Byblœmens.

1 Gen. Washington, J. Postlethwaite
3 Mango, R. Mort
3 Baguet, R. Prescott
4 Bienfait, J. Hindley
5 Beauty, T. Belshaw
6 Gibbons's Britannia G. Mort
7 Anastasia, ditto
8 Violet Winner, R Prescott
9 Maid of Orleans, J. Postlethwaite
10 Lancashire Hero, G. Mort

Flamed Byblœmens.

1 Atlas, Richard Ratcliffe
2 La Belle Narene, P. Hilton
3 Bienfait, G. Mort
4 Gibbons's Byblœmen, E. Green
5 Pyramid of Egypt, G. Mort
6 Wallers, J. Eaton
7 Roi de Siam, R. Clegg
8 Sable Rex, R. Mort
9 Mango, J. Eaton
10 Princess Royal, R. Ratcliffe

Feathered Roses.

1 Lady Crewe, R. Prescott
2 Hero of the Nile, E. Green
3 Heroine, R. Mort
4 Comte, R. Ratcliffe
5 Walworth, J. Turner
6 Dolittle, R. Yates
7 Andromeda, J. Hindley
8 Unknown, W. Postlethwaite
9 Hurst's Rose, J. Postlethwaite
10 Duc de Bronte, T. Belshaw

Flamed Roses.

1 Unique, G. Mort
2 Ponceau Brilliante, R. Prescott
3 Rose Vesta, G. Mort
4 Guerrier, R. Ratcliffe
5 Roi de Cerise, R. Prescott
6 Magnificence, R. Ratcliffe
7 Camillus, G. Mort
8 Anastasia, J. Turner
9 La Vandicken, G. Mort
10 Village Maid, R. Hindley

Bizarre Breeders.

1, Duke of Hamilton, J. Tyldsley
2 Polyphemus, R. Clegg
3 ditto
4 Charbonnier, J. Postlethwaite

Byblœmen Breeders.

1 Grand Superb, J. Postlethwaite
2 Gibbons's Seedling, J. Turner
3 Gibbons's Byblœmen, T Belshaw
4 Godet Parfait, R. Ratcliffe

Rose Breeders.

1 Anastasia, J. Postlethwaite
2 Village Maid, R. Ratcliffe
3 Lady Lilford, ditto
4 Catherine, R. Mort

Seifs.

1 Min d'Or, G. Mort
2 White Flag, ditto

TULIP SHOW.

At Park School, Park-place, Blackburn.

Best Pan of Six Blooms.—Charles X., San Joe, Bienfait, Lycurgus, Lady Middleton, and Aglaia, T. Chippendale.

Feathered Bizarres.

1 Charles X., T. Chippendale
2 Royton Hero, ditto
3 Waterloo, ditto
4 San Joe, J Jennings
5 Trafalgar, T. Whittam
6 Firebrand, J. Bradley

Flamed Bizarres.

1 San Joe, T. Chippendale
2 Charles X., ditto
3 Polyphemus, W Fairbrother
4 Charbonnier, R. Howarth
5 Rufus, ditto
6 Paganini, T. Chippendale

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Feathered Byhloemens.
1 Gibbons, T. Chippendale
2 Bienfait, W. Wilkinson
3 Beauty, J. Jennings
4 Baguet, ditto
5 Seedling, T. Chippendale
6 Lewold, ditto

Flamed Byhloemens.
1 Bienfait, T. Chippendale
2 Angelina, J. Houlker
3 Van Amburgh, J. Foulds
4 Giganteum, T. Chippendale
5 Sable Monarque, W. Fairbrother
6 Barneveidt, R. Howarth

Feathered Roses.
1 Comte, J. Jennings
2 Crewe, J. Bradley
3 Kate Connor, W. Fairbrother
4 Triomphe, ditto
5 Hero, T. Chippendale
6 Walworth, J. Foulds

Flamed Roses.
1 Aglaia, J. Jennings
2 Lady Crewe, T. Bolton
3 Gibbons's 40. T. Chippendale
4 Rose Unique, J. Bradley
5 Lord Derby, R. Howarth
6 Triomphe Royale, T. Chippendale

Bizarre Breeders.
1 Charbonnier, R. Howarth
2 Polyphemus, J. Houlker
3 Seedling, ditto
4 Lord Gordon, T. Chippendale

Byhlœmen Breeders.
1 Sir C. Napier (seed.), T. Chippendale
2 Pottinger, J. Foulds
3 Britannia, ditto
4 Lady Zetland, R. Howarth

Rose Breeders.
1 Jane of Arragon, R. Houlker
2 Duchess of Sutherland, T. Bolton
3 Seedling, T. Chippendale
4 Stanley, ditto

Selfs.
1 Min d'Or, J. Foulds
2 White, ditto

CHESTERFIELD AND SCARSDALE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the Town Hall, Chesterfield, July 4.

COTTAGERS' CLASS.

Six Pansies.—1. Flower of the Day, Royal Visit, Splendour, Maid of Athens, Jubilee, and France Cycole, E. Morley. 2. Royal Visit, Ophir, Queen of England, Ibrahim Pacha, France Cycole, Blanche, J. Rodgers. 3. Champion, Ibrahim Pacha, Duke of Perth, Yellow Standard, Zodiac, unknown, W. Morley.

Six Pinks.—1. Jenny Lind, R. Cobden, Black Prince, Sir William, Joseph Sturge, and Duchess of Marlborough, E. Morley. 2. Jenny Lind, Laura, and four seedlings, J. Rodgers.

GENTLEMEN AND AMATEURS.

PANSIES.

Pans of Twelve.—1. Royal Visit, Juventa, Duke of Perth, Miss Talbot, Fair Flora, Polyphemus, Father Gavazzi, Monarch, Maid of Athens, Mrs. Rouse, Sir J. Cathcart, and Rhoda, W. Slack. 2. Pandora, Royal Visit, Sir P. Sidney, Duke of Perth, Sir J. Cathcart, Flower of the Day, Laneii, Blanche, Owen Glendower, Miss Jane, Sir J. Paxton, and Miss Talbot, W. M. Hewitt. 3. Sir J. Cathcart, Euphemia, Flower of the Day, Mrs. Beck, Splendour, Gliffe, Lord Jeffries, Timour, Pandora, Helen, Laneii, and Duke of Sutherland, C. Aukland.

Pans of Six.—1. Jubilee, Marchioness of Lothian, Duke of Perth, Diadem, Miss Talbot, and Pandora, J. Charlesworth. 2. Mrs. Beck, Laneii, Polyphemus, Sir P. Sidney, Blanche, and Flower of the Day, C. Haslam.

Dark Selfs.
1 Flower of the Day, W. M. Hewitt
2 Duke of Perth, E. Morley
3 Flower of the Day, W. M. Hewitt

Yellow Selfs.
1 Marchioness of Lothian, E. Morley
2 Yellow Standard, ditto
3 Ophir, W. Slack

White Selfs.
1 Blanche, W. M. Hewitt
2 Blanche, W. M. Hewitt
3 White Flag, E. Morley

Yellow Ground.
1 Pandora, W. M. Hewitt
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Sir J. Cathcart, ditto

White Ground.
1 Royal Visit, E. Morley
2 Royal Visit, W. M. Hewitt
3 Maid of Athens, E. Morley

PINKS.

Pans of Six.—1. Laura, Dan O'Rourke, Mary, Joseph Sturge, Huntsman, and Sarah, C. Aukland. 2. Laura, Joseph Sturge, Lavina, Jenny Lind, Lancashire Lass, and Ayrdale Beauty, W. Slack.

Red-laced.
1 Dan O'Rourke, C. Aukland
2 Sarah, ditto
3 Joseph Sturge, E. Morley

Purple-laced.
1 Mary, C. Aukland
2 Jenny Lind, W. Morley
3 Ditto, ditto

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RANUNCULUSES.

Pans of Six.—1. Unknown, W. Slack. 2. Georgian, Midas, Herald, Louisa, Bruce, and Carouse, W. M. Hewitt.

Spotted.

1 White Spot, W. M. Hewitt
2 De Buffon, ditto

Edged.

1 Herald, W. M. Hewitt
2 King of June, ditto

ROSES.

Pans of Six.—1. Princess Clementine, Madame Laffay, Geant des Batailles, Devoniensis, Yellow Noisette, and Dr. Marx, Sir H. Huntoake, Bart. 2 Fulgens, Marshal Soult, Geant des Batailles, Boule de Nantieul, William Jesse, and Chenedole, R. Barrow, Esq. 3. Belle Maria, Aspasia, Duke of Devonshire, William Jesse, Conspicua, and Madame Laffay, J. G. Cottingham, Esq. 4. Dr. Marx, William Jesse, Baronne Prevost, Madame Laffay, Rose du Roi, and Coutard, W. M. Hewitt

LEICESTER SOCIETY OF AMATEUR FLORISTS,

At the Wiclifle Rooms, Leicester, July 10.

PINKS.

Pans of Six.—1. Jones's Huntsman, Mrs. Maclean, Marris's Angelina, Geraldine, Captivation, and Kate, R. Marris. The last two are seedlings of the present year. 2. Willmer's Laura, Jones's Huntsman, Smith's Dianthus, Bragg's Jupiter, Hooper's Charmer and Looker's Glory of Oxford, J. D. Hextall. 3. Marris's Diadem, Angelina, Theresa, Turner's Arthur and Constance, and Maclean's Criterion, W. Mitchell. 4. Hudson's Albatross, Sarah Ann, and seedling, Marris's Volusia and Diadem, and Lightbody's Maritana, G. Hudson.

Pans of three.—Maclean's Criterion, Marris's Geraldine and Theresa, R. Marris. 2. Maclean's Criterion, Lightbody's Maritana, and Hudson's Sarah Ann, G. Hudson. 3 Turner's Arthur and Constance, and Marris's Theresa, W. Mitchell. 4. Cant's Criterion, Looker's Ariel, and Turner's Sarah, H. Bates. 5. Turner's Sarah, Read's Ada, Hudson's Sarah Ann, F. W. Hollyoake.

Red-laced.

1 Colchester Cardinal, F. W. Hollyoake
2 Geraldine, R. Marris
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Angelina, ditto
5 Angelina, W. Mitchell
6 Geraldine. J. D. Hextall
7 Mrs. Maclean, R. Marris
8 Theresa, ditto
9 Lola Montes, ditto
10 Read's Ada, ditto

Purple-laced.

1 Jones's Huntsman, R. Marris
2 Hudson's Sarah Ann, F. W Hollyoake
3 Looker's Ariel, H. Bates
4 Jones's Huntsman, R. Marris
5 Theresa, W. Mitchell
6 Auckland's Mary, F. W. Hollyoake
7 Seedling, W. Mitchell
8 Jackson's Beauty of Deighton, R. Marris
9 Turner's Sarah, H. Bates
10 Lola Montes, R. Marris

Black and White.

1 Blackeyed Susan, R, Marris
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Turner's Harry, F. W. Hollyoake
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Ditto, ditto
7 Adonis, R. Marris
8 Diadem, ditto

ROSES.

Pans of Six.—1. Coup d'Hebe, Comte de Bart, Grandissima, Claude Duval, Mrs. Elliott, and Geant des Batailles, H. Bates. 2. Coup d'Hebe, Kean, Wm. Jesse, Chenedole, Baronne Prevost, and Charles Duval, W. P. Cox. 3. Boule de Nantieul, Reine de Fleurs, Kean, Coup d'Hebe, Charles Duval, and Baronne Prevost, R Marris. 4. Coup d'Hebe, Mrs. Elliott, Brennus, Chenedole, Wm. Griffiths, and unknown, W. Mitchell. 5. Duke of Devonshire, Duchess of Sutherland, William Jesse, Madame Laffay, Lady Alice Peel, and Formosa, G. Hudson.

Pans of Three.—Coup d'Hebe, William Jesse, and Chenedole, W. P. Cox. 2 Geant des Batailles, Chenedole, and Columella, H. Bates. 3. Coup d'Hebe, Mrs. Elliott, and Smith s Yellow Noisette, R. Marris.

RANUNCULUSES.

Stands of Six.—1. Kilgour's Princess Royal, Hextall's No. 4. Demosthenes, St. Jerome, Shakspere, and La Temeraine, J. D. Hextall. 2. Naxara, Melange

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des Beaute, Shannon, Orange Brabancon, Rhododendron, and unknown, W. Mitchell.

Two boxes of ranunculuses from Mr. J. D. Hextall, one containing the following varieties, raised by Mr. G. Lightbody, of Falkirk:—Aboukir, Sir John de Græme, Priam, Clio, Eumenes, Ann Hathaway, Vesuvius, Eliza, Dr. Darwin, Prince Eugene, California, Lochinvar, Minerva, Pitcairn, Mrs. Archibald Johnson, Petrel, Maturin, Otway, Roxalana, and Mr. Arthur Johnson. The other comprising a selection from seedlings raised by Mr. Read.

At the above society's exhibition of carnations &c. several new varieties were shown, including Mr. Holland's scarlet bizarre, Mr. Ainsworth, the acknowledged leading flower of the day, and Puxley's King of Carnations, crimson bizarre, with smooth petal, and strikingly brilliant colours. Mr. R. Marris staged a new seedling, named Antonio, in the style of his Prince of Wales; and several seedlings, strongly resembling Matthews's Enchantress, were produced by Mr. W. Mitchell, and successfully exhibited. Mr. Hawley officiated as judge, and the following are his awards:—

CARNATIONS.

Six Blooms.—1. Holland's Mr. Ainsworth, Holland's seedling (purple flake, extra), Haynes's Black Diamond, May's Aglaia, Firebrand, and Lord Rancliffe. J. D. Hextall. 2. Holland's Mr. Ainsworth, Parker's Captain Franklin, May's John O'Gaunt, Bramma's Uncle Tom, Kaye's Magnet, and Earl Wilton, R. Marris.

Three Blooms.—1. Puxley's King of Carnations and Princess Royal, and May's Justice Shallow, R. Marris. 2. Lodge's True Briton, Squire Trow, and Brisies, W. Mitchell. 3. Parker's Captain Franklin, Queen Philippa, and Lord Rancliffe, J. D. Hextall.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Hepworth's True Briton, J. D. Hextall
2 Fanny Gardiner, ditto
3 Admiral Curzon, ditto
4 Hale's Prince Albert, H. Bates

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Black Diamond, J. D. Hextall
2 May's Duncan, ditto
3 Lord Milton
4 Black Diamond

Purple Flakes.

1 Squire Trow, W. Mitchell
2 Squire Meynell, R. Marris

Rose Flakes.

1 May's Queen Philippa, R. Marris
2 Brisies, W. Mitchell
3 Puxley's Princess Royal, R. Marris
4 Schofield's Magnificent, J. D. Hextall
5 May's Queen Philippa, R. Marris

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Kaye's Splendour, J. D. Hextall
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Wilson's William IV., ditto
5 Ditto, ditto

PICOTEES.

Six Blooms.—1. Marris's Bellona and Jeanette, two seedlings, Robinson's Elizabeth, and Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland, W. Mitchell. 2. Antonio (seedling), Hollyoake's Nina, Marris's Jeanette, Norman's Mrs. Norman, Garratt's King of Purples, and Fellowes's Countess, R. Marris. 3. Marris's Hogarth, May's Calliope, Bayley's Duke of Devonshire, Lady Harriet Moore, Prince Arthur, and Wildman's Isabella, J. D. Hextall.

Three Blooms.—1. Antonio (seedling), Marris's Victoria Regina, and Garratt's King of Purples. R. Marris. 2. Matthews's Bridesmaid, Norman's Lord Nelson, and Wildman's Isabella, J. D. Hextall. 3. Headly's Venus, Hollyoake's Nina, and seedling.

Light-edged Red.

1 Prince of Wales, R. Marris
2 Prince of Wales, J. D. Hextall
3 Jenny Lind, ditto
4 Prince of Wales, R. Marris
5 Jenny Lind, J. D. Hextall

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Robinson's Elizabeth, W. Mitchell
2 Robinson's Elizabeth, J. D. Hextall
3 Lady Macbeth, ditto
4 Marris's Bellona, W. Mitchell
5 Bellona, J. D. Hextall
6 Omega, ditto

Light-edged Purple.

1 Seedling, W. Mitchell
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Lightbody's No. 12, J. D. Hextall

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Lord Nelson

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2 Prince Arthur
3 Lady Harriet Moore, J. D. Hextall

Light-edged Rose.

1 Hollyoake's Nina
2 Ditto
3 Lady Alice Peel, H. Bates
4 Ditto ditto

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Marris's Jeanette, W. Mitchell
2 Marris's Jeanette, H. Bates

Six Dahlias.—Morgan's King, Duke of Wellington, Beeswing, Radziville, Ganymede, and Captain Warner, W. Mitchell.

Six Pinks.—Criterion, Blackeyed Susan, Daniel O'Rourke, Turner's Sarah, and Kate, R. Marris.

NORTHAMPTON AND NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the Dolphin Hotel, Northampton, August 1.

CARNATIONS.

Twelve Blooms.—1. S.B. Lord Rancliffe (Holliday), Admiral Curzon, Prince Albert, C.B. Lord Milton, Count Pauline, 1. A. Padmore (Holliday), S.F. Captain Arnold (Holliday), Firebrand, William IV., R.F. Ariel, Lorenzo, and P.F. Squire Meynell, J. Holliday. 2. S.B. Lord Palmerston, Prince Albert, Lord Rancliffe, True Briton, C.B. Black Diamond, Count Pauline, S.F. Firebrand, Patriot (Mitchell), R.F. Martha (Elliott), Ariel, P.F. Princess Charlotte, and Martin's Seedling, H. Archer.

Six Blooms.—1. S.B. Admiral Curzon, C.B. Lord Milton, Firebrand, S.F. seedling, R.F. Lady Gardiner, and Squire Meynell, S. Haddon, Bugbrook. 2. S.B. Admiral Curzon, C.B. Lord Milton, S.F. William IV., Firebrand, R.F. Miss Ann, and P.F. Squire Meynell, J. Carter.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Lord Rancliffe, J. Holliday
2 Admiral Curzon, S. Haddon
3 Lord Palmerston, T. Hills
4 Admiral Curzon, J. Carter

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Count Pauline, J. Holliday
2 Lord Milton, S. Haddon
3 Lord Milton, J. Carter

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Firebrand, T. Hills
2 Firebrand, S. Haddon
3 Captain Arnold, J. Holliday
4 Splendour, B. Vialls

Rose Flakes.

1 Ariel, J. Holliday
2 Miss Ann, S. Haddon
3 Miss Ann, H. Archer

Purple Flakes.

1 Squire Meynell, H. Archer
2 Premier, B. Vialls
3 Squire Meynell, J. Holliday
4 Squire Meynell, S. Haddon

PICOTEES.

Twelve Blooms.—1. King James, Mr. Trahar, Jenny Lind, Isabella, Delicata (Holliday), Irene, Portia, Juliet, Victoria (Green), Princess Royal, Mrs. Barnard, and Miss Desborough, J. Holliday. 2. Duchess of Cambridge, Sebastian, Gem, Julio Romano, Mrs. Bevan, Portia, Alfred, Duke of Rutland, Ganymede, L'Elegant, Grace Darling, and Mrs. Barnard, H. Archer.

Six Blooms.—1. Queen Victoria, Miss Wake (Haddon), Miss Bouverie (Haddon), Juliet, Prince of Wales, and Mrs. Barnard, S. Haddon. 2. Jeanette, Delicata, Mrs. Hemans, Proconsul, Miss Rosa, and Venus, B. Vialls. 3. Mrs. Barnard, Gem, Prince George, Juliet, Mrs. Bevan, unknown, J. Carter.

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Mr. Trahar, S. Haddon
2 Mr. Trahar, J. Carter
3 King James, J. Holliday
4 Julio Romano, B. Vialls

Light edged Red.

1 Miss Wake (Haddon), S. Haddon
2 Gem, J. Carter
3 Jenny Lind, J. Holliday
4 Gem, H. Archer

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Portia, J. Carter
2 Portia, H. Archer
3 Portia, S. Haddon
4 Portia, J. Holliday

Light-edged Purple.

1 Delicata, J. Holliday
2 Delicata, B Vialls
3 L'Elegant, H. Archer
4 Juliet, S. Haddon

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Mrs. Franklin (Hills), T. Hills
2 Venus, B. Vialls
3 Princess Royal, J. Holliday
4 Miss Desborough, J. Carter

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Light-edged Rose.
1 Mrs. Barnard, B. Vialls
2 Mrs. Barnard, J. Holliday
3 Mrs. Barnard, S. Haddon
4 Lady Alice Peel, H. Archer

Heavy-edged Yellow.
1 Victoria (Martin), J. Holliday

Light-edged Yellow.
1 Victoria (Martin), J. Holliday

Six blooms of Miss Wake, a light-edged red picotee, were exhibited by the raiser, Mr. S. Haddon, and were highly commended by the judges. The flower was pronounced by the florists generally to be first-rate, and it stood first in its class, as will be seen by the above report.

CARNATION SHOW.

In the Garden of Mr. W. Colcutt, St. Aldate's, Oxford, on Thursday, Aug. 3.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.
1 Lord Ranelife, J. Maltby
2 Admiral Curzon, W. Belcher
3 Admiral Curzon, T. Cooke

Crimson Bizarres.
1 Lord Milton, J. Maltby
2 Puxley's Queen, G. Kirtland
3 Puxley's Queen, G. Cooke

Pink and Purple Bizarres.
1 Lord Raglan (seedling), W. Day
2 Falconbridge, E. Walker
3 Cartwright's Rainbow, W. Plaister

Scarlet Flakes.
1 Chadwick's Brilliant, W. Plaister
2 Chadwick's Brilliant, G. Kirtland
3 Wilson's William IV., J. Maltby

Rose Flakes.
1 May's Benedict, G. Kirtland
2 Flora's Garland, J. Maltby
3 Ely's Lovely Ann, T. Cooke

Purple Flakes.
1 Holland's Earl of Wilton, G. Kirtland
2 Netherwood's Companion, T. Cooke
3 Beauty of Woodhouse, W. Belcher

PICOTEES.

Light-edged Rose.
1 Duchess of Bedford, J. Maltby
2 Kirtland's Miss Holbeach, G. Kirtland

Heavy-edged Red.
1 James II., J. Payne
2 Norman's Mrs. Norman, J. Maltby
3 James II., G. Kirtland

Light-edged Purple.
1 Payne's Eliza, J. Payne
2 Kirtland's Countess of Waldegrave, T. Cooke
3 Juliana, T. Looker
4 May's Ophelia, J. Maltby

Heavy-edged Purple.
1 Lord Nelson, T. Cooke
2 Lord Nelson, G. Kirtland
3 Lord Nelson, J. Maltby
4 Lord Nelson, J. Payne

Intermediate Edge.
1 Mrs. Barnard, T. Cooke
2 Mrs. Barnard, J. Maltby
3 Mr. Barnard, J. Payne

Heavy-edged Rose.
1 Turner's Helen, J. Maltby
2 Green's Victoria, J. Maltby
3 Marris's Unexpected, G. Kirtland

Light-edged Rose.
1 Dodwell's Alfred, J. Payne
2 Costar's General Bem, J. Maltby
3 Dodwell's Alfred, T. Looker

GOLDEN RULES FOR GARDENERS.—Procure whenever you can, turves cut from a pasture, to lay in a heap and rot. "A store is no sore."—Constantly examine your plants, to watch for the enemy's attack. The mealy bug, scale, green fly, or red spider must never get a-head of you.—Encourage robins and toads. They are good friends to gardeners, because they destroy their enemies.—Never be afraid of trying experiments; every time you fail, you learn. We often derive instruction from the failure of our trials.

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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

NEW ROSES.

I HAVE been so thoroughly occupied, that I have scarcely had time to look over my notes on roses, made during the blooming season; but as I am certain you will be glad to hear what we have new and good, I have determined; though late, to transcribe them for your little work, several copies of which, I am glad to inform you, find their way here. You will not be surprised to learn that there are many seedlings which have a strong affinity to that favourite rose, Geant des Batailles, evidently offsprings of that variety. We by no means have the demand as formerly, for hybrid China or French roses, but our exports to the United States and other countries, of hybrid perpetual roses, worked on the manetti stock, is very great. We find, also, that the rage for tall standards is past, and, except for weeping roses, we seldom bud higher than three feet. Well then, let me see what I think will be worthy of notice in your country. *Prince Leon* is a very lively and beautiful variety; the petals are thick, and the flower is full, without being confused. Though a pink rose, it is a different shade to most others, being very bright and attractive. Those of your readers who attach importance to size, will be gratified with *Colonel de Rougemont.* It is a splendid new rose, bright pink, and a decided advance on the majority of that colour. *Madame Hector Jacquin* is in the same way, though perhaps too much like the foregoing to be desirable in a small collection. Both are good, however, and of fine form. *Sir John Franklin* is evidently a seedling from Geant des Batailles, and a very attractive and striking rose it is,—a rich velvety crimson.

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We have this year used small calico caps, formed on wire, to cover some of our darker roses. *Souvenir d'Arquebuse* (to an Englishman, what a name!) is, nevertheless, a splendid crimson Bourbon rose. One of the most tantalizing roses of this class is *Flechiere.* We have positively had it as striped as a carnation, and all our people have been on the *qui vive* about it. In fact, for a few days, throughout the grounds, there was nothing talked of but *Flechiere;* but, alas! like many other things in this transitory world, *Flechiere* is uncertain; though, for strength and robust growth, it is second to few. *Clurie* I have got down as a nice thing. It pleased me much, from its beautiful and attractive crimson tint; but, like Jean d'Arc, it appears, on any stock, and on any soil, to do indifferently. *La Quintinie* bloomed grandly here. It is the darkest hybrid perpetual I know, it is nearly purple,—I should call it purple marone,—and is certainly a good thing. For years, we have wanted something like this, and, thanks to the perseverance of the cultivators in this part of the world, considerable advance, in this respect, is now making. I find, in reading over what I have written, that I have omitted several good hybrid perpetuals, and as I have not time to rewrite my communication, I must mention them here, or not at all. For instance, I should not like to leave out *Jules Margottin.* I do not know what may be your designation for a superb flower, but this deserves a high character, for it is good in every respect, and should you grow it during the ensuing summer, you must bear me out in my encomiums, if you find them correct. *Paul Dupuy* will do. Quite up to the mark. A shaded crimson, excellent in form, and of large size. It is a flower that will please. *Gloire de Parthenay* has form about it to supersede many others, still the colour is pink, and similar to a host. How far amongst the multitude of that tint it will establish itself I know not, but it is really a pretty rose. In tea-scented varieties I have not much to report.

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Melanie Oger is a gem in this class. It is double, distinct, and vigorous; of good size, and creamy white. *Auguste Vacher* is a remarkably strong-growing variety, throwing up shoots like the noisettes; still it is a thoroughbred "*thé*." The colour is somewhat like old Jaune d'Esprez, but it is much better in form. *Gloire de Dijon* I have told you of before. This summer being warm, it flowered most magnificently. This must be the flower of the season. I always thought Souvenir de Malmaison fine, but this really beats it. In other classes, such as moss, hybrid China, and Gallica, there is comparatively little demand, and the energies of our growers are more strongly directed to improve the varieties I have previously named. We do not find the Blush, White Bath, or Striped Moss to stand well on their own roots. Of crested, we have had several sent from England, as fresh varieties, but, with the exception of Monstrosa, they are not distinct enough. *Vandael* is certainly something out of the usual course, and though not mossed so well as some, is a fine and distinct rose. It is rich in colour, a velvety dark crimson, with a purple shade, and certainly it has here been very fine. As for *Madame Alboni*, though I admire all moss roses, I think this has decidedly the pre-eminence amongst light varieties, and I venture to prophecy must become a general favourite. As I before said, in other classes not much is done. In Gallicas, *George Vibert* is a new striped sort, but I do not think much of it. The foliage is not good, and the flower is uncertain. I have some others, which I marked as good, in the early part of the season, but which, in rather an unusual manner, fell off in the autumn. These, of course, are of no use; for I consider that, generally speaking, French and hybrid China, in their season, take the lead, and if hybrid perpetuals cannot bloom in good character, in the autumn months, they are certainly useless.

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I trust this brief notice may be of service, and have no doubt that in favourable seasons, your readers who may grow the varieties I have named, will realize all I have said about them.

R. S.

Malines.

CRITICISM ON MR HARRISON'S NOTES OF TULIPS.

BY MR. JAMES LIGHTBODY, FLORIST.

In briefly reviewing Mr. Harrison's notes, I shall, of course, only notice those varieties which are familiar to myself. The prevailing error in the descriptions given by Mr. H. is a fault too prevalent with the inexperienced, who attempt to describe flowers, viz., a total want of that *minuteness* which gives such a *likeness* that not only the shape, colour, height, &c. is vividly impressed on the mind of the reader, but also when he sees the variety, he may immediately recognize whether it is correct or not. Mr. H. fails in this, inasmuch as it would puzzle any one to tell whether the variety described is is a rose, byblœmen, or bizarre.

La Vandicken is a fourth-row rose, long in the cup, and wants rotundity of outline. A very heavy flame.

Surpasse Catafalque is generally specked in the bottom.

Smith's Duke of Wellington.—Long-cupped, the colour, not worthy of notice in a fine collection.

Smith's Sir Robert Peel.—A third-row byblœmen, pure in the bottom, very difficult to expand. It is something like Pandora in colour.

Marcellus.—Comes a fine feathered and flamed bizarre, second row. Its fault is a grizzlyness, or specks of colour, which run through the ground. I have never seen it without this defect.

Alexander's Jenny Lind.—Ought to have been named *Howard's.* It is a good-shaped rose, third row, creamy in the ground, the feather a dull red. Now, for a first-class rose, we must have brilliancy of colour and purity of white, as seen in old Comte de Vergennes, when it first opens; or we must have

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the rich crimson of Dixon's Rhea Sylvia. But the nower, to my taste, which surpasses all, for colour, is a new rose, *Skurray's Lady Bush.* When this is more plentiful, it will create a sensation.

Lyde's Lord Strathmore I believe to be only a break from Devonshire breeder.

Lightbody's Kosciusko, as seen by Mr. Harrison, has been a very inferior break. It is inclined to be long in the cup, and a little pointed; but the beauty of its marking and colour, the purity of its bottom and stamens, the boldness of its anthers, all combine to make one of the most attractive flowers in cultivation. Our No. 1 strain, which was described by Mr. Wood, at page 217 of the *Midland Florist*, for 1851, is only in the possession of two gentlemen, viz., I. I. Colman, Esq., Stoke Holy Cross, Norwich, and Mr. Wm. Smith, jun., Alpine Cottage, Darlington.

Headly's Britannia.—From description, I imagine *Franklin's Britannia* is meant.

Camarine, with us, always comes yellow in the bottom, and never bleaches. I have never seen it fine.

Jeffrey's Elizabeth is a very pretty rose, but very tight in the bottom of the cup, and has narrow petals. It soon quarters.

Glenny's Duke of Northumberland, which is, I think, the same variety as Brown's (of Slough) Magnificent, has two colours. The outer colour is shaded off with what the late Mr. Davidson aptly named a *mousey purple.* This is very apparent in the interior of the flower; but its great defect is *bad shape*,—the petals *rise nearly straight*, something in the Czarinne form.

Dark's Don Cossack has a green bottom, and when in heavy character, it is *quite foul.*

Rose Brilliante.—A fine *Camuse.*

Rutley's Queen is a tender-stemmed variety, *long* and *loose* in the cup, with soft flimsy petals; bottom, with us, quite yellow. It is not worthy of a place in a fine bed.

Pompe Funebre.—A third-row lemon-coloured bizarre, long and narrow in the cup. Colour of feather nearly black.

Clark's Duke of Wellington.—A first-row bizarre, good shape, very early in bloom, unsteady. As much like Polyphemus as is Everard.

Haward's Magnificent.—Long, loose, yellow in bottom, almost worthless. This variety was meant to create a sensation. It failed.

Willison's King has a rich ground colour, and does promise to be very fine. It is a new style of bizarre. Whether it is steady, or not, remains to be proved.

Lawrence's Milton (read *Clark's)* is only a coarse Duke of Devonshire.

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And now, Mr. Editor, allow me to say a few words upon an old question, in which I know you take a deep interest, viz., What is *perfection of form in the tulip?* Messrs. Glenny, Groom, and Hardy have settled this, I have no doubt, to their own satisfaction. My humble opinion is, that these gentlemen are all wrong. Your readers will start at this, as some will place their faith in Mr. Glenny, and others in Mr. Hardy, and now they will, of course, ask what is my idea. Through the kindness of Mr. Turner, I got a diagram figured in the May number of the *Florist*, for 1852. It is the first of a series of three designs, which were drawn for me, and I would now call the attention of your readers to it. When the other designs are published, they will have a better and clearer idea of perfection of form in the tulip.

ON HYBRIDIZING THE PINK AND PICOTEE.

BY FLORISTA.

SOMEWHERE in one of the volumes of the *Midland Florist*, I read a communication from a florist, of an attempt to hybridize the pink with the picotee; and an intimation that the party referred to would, at some future period, "report progress." No "progress," however, having been reported, I presume his attempt proved abortive.

Two years ago, I had an early bloom of Dodwell's Mary, light-edged red picotee, which I impregnated with pollen from Lola Montes pink. In process of time, I cut the seed pod, but unfortunately before the seed was perfectly matured; still, however I determined to try the experiment to its utmost extent, and in the ensuing spring I sowed the seeds, but only one vegetated. This one produced me a plant, which flowered the present season. Can any of the readers of the *Midland Florist* form an opinion of the pro-

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duce of this "cross?" It was neither pink, picotee, nor carnation. In its habit of growth and pod, it strikingly resembled Lola Montes, and its guard petals were as large, but it was only semi-double. Its ground colour was a delicate rose, and it was destitute of lacing or edging, but it had a large eye, or centre circle, of deeper rose, similar to a black and white pink. It put up a pair of very strong pointals, and if I had had any pollen (which, with me, this season, has been exceedingly scarce) I have no doubt it would have produced seed. I opened the ovarium, which I found to contain a quantity of embryo seed.

I forward the foregoing remarks because I have heard that it was impossible to produce a hybrid between the pink and picotee, or if so, such progeny would be *mules*. The reverse, however, appears to be the case.

WHICH ARE THE BEST VARIETIES OF TULIPS TO CROSS WITH EACH OTHER, FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING SEED?

BY J. SLATER, FLORIST, CHEETHAM-HILL, NEAR MANCHESTER.

THE young amateur, fully aware of the importance of raising seedling florists' flowers, is desirous of obtaining all the information necessary to succeed in his pursuit, and having had nearly twenty years' experience, I feel persuaded I cannot do better, ere I quit the stage of life, than to impart the little knowledge I possess in aiding the lovers of nature. We all know that from a faint light sometimes a dazzling one breaks out, and many of our great improvements in science have been brought about by the suggestions of different individuals being worked out by master minds. No pursuit is so capable of affording pleasure as well as profit, to a contemplative mind, as the study of nature and her productions; and the raising of seedlings creates a mine of interest in the

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results. All are not successful,—because the most careful attention ought to be exercised in selecting those varieties upon which we ground our hopes. Seed taken from nature's wild productions, rarely, if ever, produces any improvement upon herself, and it is only when assisted by man, that she progresses.

The greatest mistake an amateur falls into, is taking seed promiscuously, and in so doing, he is certain to reap a harvest of disappointment. Who, at the present day, would take a Dolittle and set it apart for seed? Could he expect anything that would recompense him for his labour? Certainly not! He who wishes to originate good flowers, must take seed from good varieties, and with these, care must be taken that impregnation from other sources does not take place. I well remember falling into the errors of others, in my first attempt at raising seedling tulips. I saw a pod of seed, well ripened, in a neighbour's garden, and obtained it. It was one of our garden varieties, many degrees removed from our Lacantiques. I was proud of my treasure, and sowed it; but alas! all were rubbish. My next attempt was with Queen Boadicea, from which I raised a very large number; but even from this sowing, only a few would be worthy of a place at the present day. Amongst them was Kate Connor. I still sowed from my favourite Queen, and with the same result,—few, if any, worth retaining. I then crossed Polyphemus with San Joe, and Polyphemus with Min d'Or (a self); but although I succeeded, I was ignorant of scientific crossing. I blundered at it, and fortunately accomplished my object, and from this seed I obtained some of the finest bizarres in cultivation. I afterwards perceived the ovarium, and then I crossed them scientifically, and have succeded beyond my expectations. They come as true as I could wish, although they do not possess the same character, so to speak, as the parents, but are an improvement upon each. The day is not far distant when the tulip will be found to have made as

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rapid an advance as the picotee. I have seen the improvement looming in the distance, and have made preparations for it. The cry now is, *Is it pure?* and no one can deny that purity, after form, is the *sine qua non*. Purity can only be attained with certainty by careful attention in seeding and crossing such as possess both *form and purity*. Some parties whom I know have taken seed from La Vandicken, and a precious lot of rubbish has resulted. But it must not be understood that nothing good can be got from such seed; because occasionally a gem is found, where least expected; but then there will not be that pleasure which will arise when good seed is used, from the probability that among the produce there will not be one flower worthy of notice. In taking seed, varieties should be selected that are newly raised, because they are farther removed from original imperfections, and are consequently more likely to produce improved sorts, I have, on a former occasion, when writing on this subject, stated that there is a tendency in nature to go backwards. This, to a florist, is, or should be known. Take, for instance, the carnation or picotee, save seed from the best, and see what a quantity of selfs and single flowers are produced from one sowing. But this is not quite so bad in the tulip, of which I will adduce proof. In 1849, I selected a rose breeder, supposed to be one of Clark's, and crossed it. I do not know with what variety, as latterly I have not made notes of what I have crossed with. The breeder pleased me, because it had form and purity; and now mark the results. Although only sown five years, I have bloomed fourteen, and out of these, there is only one to throw away, and nine probably the finest I have ever raised, and all roses. This shows the crossing was effectually done, as a few bloomed the previous year, and they also were roses. Another instance is Jean of Arragon, a seedling I purchased some years ago, and it so happened that season that I was determined to have purity in its fullest extent. I took it up in

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bloom, and the next year it flowered with stamens as black as possible. Sometimes it blooms pure. Possessing a thick fleshy petal, and not to be despised as to form, I seeded it, and now for the result. Sixteen were planted to bloom this season, and although it was crossed, a viler lot of rubbish, for dirtiness, could scarcely be found; but I had form and thickness of petal. This is convincing, that purity in both is indispensable. It may be asked what I would recommend to seed from. I certainly do not like the list in the November number of the *Midland Florist*, and I will state my reasons why.

In roses, Heroine, crossed with Kate Connor, is recommended. I differ here, for this reason,—the parent is Heroine. Now we all know that Heroine is long in the cup, narrow in the petals, pointed at the top, and although crossed with Kate Connor, the seed-bearing flower will be found to preponderate. Probably there may be one or more fine, and equal, if not superior to the parents, but the risk is great. I never saw a good rose raised yet from Heroine. Again, Kate Connor, crossed with Mary Lamb, is objectionable, inasmuch as Mary Lamb has rather narrow petals. Anastasia, crossed with Paul's Rose, is what I should not recommend, because Anastasia is rather "tun-dishy" in form. Scarlet le Grand, crossed with Catherine, is the most objectionable of the whole. Scarlet le Grand, the parent, is not pure, and Catherine, very seldom bleaches out at the base, so that there is little probability of getting anything good from sowing the seed.

Having thus disposed of the roses, with all due deference, I will suggest what will answer better.

Claudiana + Kate Connor.
Cerise a belle forme + Kate Connor.
Manteau Ducale + Cerise a belle forme.
Dutch Ponceau tres blanc + Anastasia.
Rose Camuse + Manteau Ducale.

BIZARRES.—Vivid, crossed with Royal Sovereign, is objectionable, for this reason, there are two yellows

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in the inside, as well as being long in the cup. Polyphemus also and Pilot are two pale yellow grounds; therefore the probability is that the produce would be the same. Duke of Devonshire and Polyphemus would be better, and likely to produce something good. Pilot and Willison's King—objectionable, because King is long in the cup and petals not a good shape. All that I have seen yet, are oval, instead of being rather balloon-shaped. I would say as follows:—

Vivid + Pilot.
Pilot + Gold Cup.
Duke of Devohshire + Polyphemus.
Polyphemus + Gold Cup.
Gold Cup + Vivid, or Pilot.

Byblœmens.—Salvator Rosa (Gibbons) is long in the cup. Salvator Rosa (Brown) crossed with Royal George, would do well, but there is a difficulty in getting the variety. Thalia and First-rate would do. Chellaston Beauty and Queen of Sheba is doubtful. The following, I am of opinion, would be preferable:

Musidora + Bloemart.
Bloemart + Violet Alexander.
Bloemart + Lawrence's Friend.
Lawrence's Friend + Bloemart.
Musidora + Thalia.
Bijou des Amateurs + Sancta Sophia.
Democrat + Sancta Sophia, or Duc de Savoy.

I have given a list which nearly all tulip growers have in their collections, and have also endeavoured to bring colours together, in the hope of getting better grounds in the bizarres, good dark purples in the byblœmens, and, if possible, scarlet in the roses.

I have here recommended what I do not practise myself, as I prefer seedlings to old varieties, because, as I have before stated, the farther from the original the greater probability of improvement and novelty.

The seed I have taken this year is as follows:—Claudiana, feathered, crossed with Kate Connor; Claudiana, with a fine seedling rose; Democrat, crossed with a rose seedling, because I have had

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from Democrat, which is a rosy byblœmen, some of my finest roses; Ada, crossed with a seedling rose; Lady Zetland, with a seedling rose; and a rose breeder, which bloomed for the first time this season, with another.

THE SPRING OF 1854.

PERHAPS it will be serviceable to many of our readers, in the first place, to note in our little periodical the character and comparative hardiness of many of the new trees and shrubs, which of late years have been introduced to our gardens; and we trust it will be a guide to purchasers and amateurs, and possibly be the means of saving them expense, as well as mortification. Every nurseryman knows that the past spring was a most disastrous one; thousands of plants which had withstood the winters since 1837 and 1838, were destroyed by the inclemency of 1854; and trees which had attained considerable size, and were justly considered naturalized, succumbed to the rigour of the winter. We will begin with that interesting family the virburnums, which include not only the strong-growing Guelder rose, or, as it is more familiarly called, the Snowball tree (Viburnum opulus), but also the beautiful favourite winter-flowering evergreen, the laurestinus (Viburnum tinus). Never since we recollect has such sad havoc been made with this latter plant. They were cut down by thousands; yet, nine out of ten, which were established, have pushed vigorously from the roots, and will doubtless become handsomer plants than they were previously. In sheltered situations, the Viburnum suspensum, a sweet evergreen, in the same style, suffered but little, and at all events, it appears equally hardy with the common laurestinus previously alluded to. Viburnum rugosum, a coarse-looking, large-leaved species, with us, was killed outright, and does not appear

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sufficiently hardy to stand exposure north of the Trent; whilst Viburnum cotinifolium, with its rough oval foliage, downy beneath, has not suffered in the least. It is an evergreen truly, and though not parcularly handsome, still its hardiness will tell in its favour. The handsome deciduous shrub, Viburnum plicatum, has escaped uninjured, whilst the Shining-leaved Laurestinus (Viburnum lucidum) has suffered much. The arbutus, another splendid evergreen, has also been much cut. The common sort, or strawberry tree, like the laurestinus, has, in most instances, pushed strong again from the base. The beautiful new scarlet variety, Arbutus Croomii, was killed outright. A. Millerii has escaped, but much injured, and what certainly has surprised us, the splendid A. magnifica has suffered but little. The Scarlet Arbutus, on its own roots, has pushed out strongly, whilst those which were grafted have been killed down to the place where worked. The beautiful Buddlea globosa, with its spikes of orange flowers, was cut down to the ground, but has thrown up freely, and certainly deserves a place in every shrubbery of any pretensions. The different varieties of evergreen berberis deserve very extended cultivation, not only from their extreme hardiness, but likewise for their beautiful and diversified foliage and pretty habit. Amongst those having small foliage is Berberis impetrifolia, with its delightful glaucous hue, contrasting prettily with its more sombre neighbour, B. cuneata. Both have proved themselves perfectly hardy, and most attractive ornaments for the foreground of shrubberies. Then there is the B. Darwinii, as hardy as possible, and certainly one of the most lovely of its tribe, eclipsing in our eye the very graceful B. dulcis. Neither of these have suffered in the least, though planted in very exposed situations. We can gladly point to those with pinnate leaves, which bravely withstood the storm, such as B. fascicularis hybrida, repens, and aquifolia, which must rank amongst our most useful and desirable evergreens. Garryas suffered much

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with us. G. macrophylla seldom ripened its shoots, which were consequently killed back every winter, but this last season gave it its *quietus*. G. macfaydeana is also too tender for this locality; whilst G. elliptica, though seriously cut, has pushed most vigorously, making shoots, in some instances, two feet in length. All the arborvitæs (thujas) have escaped capitally, and we have been particularly pleased with the T. empetrifolia, a variety of T. aurea, which, though in a very exposed situation, was not even browned, but early in the spring assumed a most lively and beautiful livery of green and gold. This we take to be one of the most handsome and interesting of that numerous family. The American (Thuja occidentalis) looked the worst, very many of the plants being much browned; whilst T. Sieboldii and flagelliformis, with Siberica, held a fine and lively green. The curious T. pendula was much browned, but has recovered itself during the summer. T. aurea is also one of the hardiest, and deserves a place on every lawn and grass-plot where an upright evergreen is desirable. As for the fir tribe, we do not grow these extensively, but what few we have are handsome and desirable. Pinus Banksia, for instance, with its long glaucous foliage, has withstood the effects of the winter well; whilst P. radiata lost its leader, and was much scorched, but has recovered its beautiful lively green tint, and will yet make a handsome tree, if we can coax another leader to take the place of the one destroyed. P. cembra is very hardy and close in foliage, and the beautiful P. macrocarpa appears as hardy as the Scotch fir. The graceful P. insignis, in a low, rich, and sheltered situation, was killed; whilst specimens planted on higher ground, in poorer soil, escaped uninjured. The Abies pinsapo have not suffered, neither has its near relative A. Cephalonica, both remarkable for their dense and beautiful habit. Abies Douglassii has also stood remarkably well, Araucarias were, in many instances, very seriously injured, the plants appearing

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dead; yet these, during the summer, emitted fresh foliage from the points of the shoots, and the loss will by no means be so great as was anticipated; and, strange to say, a plant five feet high, in a low and damp situation suffered less than any other about our premises. Of the different kinds of privet, Ligustrum lucidum suffered most. L. japonicum, by the way, a most beautiful evergreen, was cut down, but has pushed strong, and made a handsome bush. L. ovalæfolium, a plant which partakes more of the style of the common evergreen privet, with broad and handsome foliage, has proved perfectly hardy. L. Augustifolium was also uninjured. The Box-leaved, Myrtle-leaved, Upright, and Laurel-leaved, all stood the winter well. Of laurels, the common suffered most, hundreds being killed to the ground; whilst the handsome Laurus colchicum, with its more pointed foliage and denser habit, was perfectly uninjured,—a fact of great importance, as this variety is every way more handsome than the common (Cerasus laurocerasus). As for the Portugal laurels, they stood capitally with us, though we lost a great many by the drought, in spring; and a small thick-leaved variety, raised by Mr. Fox, of Cliff Vale, appears to be even more hardy than the species generally. The yews all proved hardy, and such sorts as Recurva, Dovastonii, Japonica, Adpressa, Hibernica, Elegantissima, &c. must be invaluable to the planter. Of oaks, Quercus Branti escaped unscathed; as did Q. suber, though in some parts of the country much injured. Our seedling variety of Q. cerris empetrifolia had a hard struggle, though the species is perfectly hardy, but we are happy to say it has recovered. Quercus ilex variegata, killed; and Quercus Delachampii much injured. The very interesting and beautiful tribe of junipers, on the whole, escaped well. Juniperus Chinensis, both the male and female variety, were unhurt, Juniperus oblonga pendula, much browned, but has recovered. J. squamata appears very robust; and all the Savins, whe-

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ther common, variegated, or tamariscifolia, were uninjured. Juniperus Bedfordiana, with its dense and attractive habit, was not even browned; whilst J. tetragonia was the only one killed outright. J. oxycedrus, Virginiana horizontalis, recurva, filiformis, cracoviæ, Virginia hippuroides, cinerasceus, ericoides, interrupta, and echiniformis, have all proved equal to the most severe frosts, and are certainly great acquisitions. The beautiful evergreen alaternus suffered but little with us; whilst the gold and silver-striped narrow-leaved varieties, large bushes of Gum cistus Persian Broom, Ceanothus divaricatus, were unable to withstand the frost, and are utterly destroyed. Escallonia macrantha was cut to the ground, but it emitted fresh shoots, and has bloomed well this autumn. The beautiful magnolias stood uninjured, especially M. Thompsonii, purpurea, macrophylla, cordata, and soulangia. Roses suffered woefully, and we fancy that in the northern counties very few tea and Chinese roses escaped. In fact, our recollection does not reach to so disastrous a spring as that of 1854.

SPORTING OF TULIPS FROM SEED.

It is not, I believe, at all unusual to find all the classes—rose, byblœmen and bizarre—to come from the same pod of seed. Roses will produce byblœmens as well as roses; and byblœmens will produce bizarres and roses as well as byblœmens: the greater portion of the seedlings will most probably prove of the same class as the parent from which the seed was raised. As to roses being produced from bizarres I have no clearly identified instance. On looking over my notes, I find but two instances of roses coming from bizarres; and in both cases it so happened that a few seedlings from a byblœmen got intermixed with those from the bizarre, so that I could not possibly ascertain whether

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either of them was the actual offspring of the bizarre, or one of the stray ones mixed with it. My impression is, that roses, being the produce from roses through two or three sucessive generations, will ultimately bring only roses: for in 1848, I sowed a pod from a rose breeder, which was from the seed of Queen Boadicea, sown in 1840, and the produce is all roses, with only one exception, and no bizarre. Again in 1841, I sowed from Emperor of Austria, crossed with Royal Sovereign, and the seedlings proved all bizarres, of which Regulator is one, Saxon a second, and Sobraon a third. Camilla, flamed rose, came direct from Lady Middleton breeder, fertilized with Strong's Duchess of Kent, and most, if not all, besides were roses; while Constance is a seedling from a rose and bizarre mixed, and most probably it is the offspring of the rose (Arlette breeder), as it has a beautiful scarlet feather, on a pure white ground. Roses from byblœmens may be had rather plentifully. Sylph, for instance, a dark feathered rose, is from Strong's Black Prince, fertilized with Queen Charlotte, and sown 1841; and from this pod I also obtained Othello, a very dark flamed byblœmen, and also an intense black feathered bizarre, besides Hector, a fine short cup pure bizarre breeder, although Black Prince is stained.

It will not be surprising to find seedlings from the same parent to be so varied in their character, if we bear in mind that the seed is usually saved from a collection where all the classes are pretty evenly balanced. However careful we may be in crossing, we may not, after all, hit the right moment for the operation; and independent of bees and flies, the wind is known to be an effectual agent in the process of fertilization, and may have finished the duty ere we have thought of commencing it. In tricolors, there is frequently great difficulty in deciding to which class, whether rose or bizarre, they belong; as for instance, Neptune, which from Mr. Glenny's description is almost neither, yet largely partaking of

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both; and it is still undecided whether Bacchus is a rose or byblœmen, making it somewhat dangerous to put it in a stand for competition. In these instances, among many, we no doubt have examples of an accidental cross; so that taking all the circumstances into account, we need not feel much surprise should a rose occasionally be the offspring of a bizarre.

J. BATTERSBY.

Mansfield, November 9, 1854.

THE CARNATION AND PICOTEE BLOOM OF 1854.

WITH a few exceptions,—brilliant indeed, but few in number,—I believe the bloom of the past season has been a great disappointment. Coming after the large promise of early spring, it has been all the more felt. There can be little doubt this result was due to the unusually low temperature which prevailed throughout May and June, and the drenching black rains of July. Such a sunless summer has been rarely known, and for my part, having something of the butterfly in my composition, I don't care if we never have such another. No amount of surface-stirring, top-dressing, or cleaning, could compensate for the absence of old Sol's rays; the growth was sluggish, and the bloom very late and inferior in character. Our own was the latest and worst we have ever had. Under such circumstances, a large allowance must be made for failures, and I have entered more at length into these preliminaries, as a considerable portion of the flowers of 1853 come into this category. A few, indeed, stand out brightly against the dark back ground, and foremost among these, in carnations, is Holland's Mr. Ainsworth, S.B. May's Helen, a noble heavy-edged rose, gives equal relief to the picotee. King of Carnations, C.B. (Puxley), is one of the best of Mr. Puxley's flowers; fine broad petal, well marked, and opening freely,

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which, unfortunately, is what very few of Mr. Puxley's flowers will do, in our cold place. May's Aglaia, a remarkably bold rose flake, in the way of Lady Gardiner, and certainly an improvement upon that old variety, completes the tale. In the ruck, we have a host of flowers far away from what we would have, though many, under less trying circumstances, may come fairly up to the winning post. Coriolanus, S.B. (May), is pretty, with a well-shaped petal, but weakly in its growth. Oliver Goldsmith (Turner), also S.B., is too rough; the colours also are deficient in richness. John of Gaunt, P.B., from which much was expected, came sadly deficient in colour. Ascendant, P.F., is a fine bold flower for the tent, but I am afraid we shall never refine it sufficiently for a first stand. Jacques, also a variety of Mr. May's, another P.F., is a pretty flower, well marked, much in the way of Squire Meynell, but with a petal about half the width of that sterling old variety. Julia and Prince Arthur (Hicklin's), P.F.s, which were to beat old Premier, were sadly deficient in their lesson, and have gone back, to "try again." Ulysses (Turner), is something in the style of Martin's President, but with a better form and more refinement. Rachel, our own bantling, has, I understand, been a "poor thing" in the south. With us, it has not been equal to 1853. To be seen in good character, the plants should be vigorous in their growth, and here, the season seriously prejudiced it in this respect, I have seen it fine, or otherwise it should have had no name from me. In scarlet flakes, Canute is too dull in colour, otherwise a flower of fair properties. Cromwell had little of the endurance of the "Lord Protector," for it died with the first ungenial winds, though doubtless when Mr. May named the flower, it was the companion of Wolsey, the great English cardinal, and not the Protector of the Commonwealth, who occupied his thoughts. Lady Rhodes (Rhodes), is a repeat of Addenbrook's Lydia. Kaye's Splendour has some good points about it, but wants

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refinement. May's Queen Philippa and Talbot, rose flakes, may possibly, another year, exhibit the decision and character they wanted this.

In picotees, Scholefield's Mary Scholefield, is a full-sized flower, with a finely-formed well-marked petal, but wanting in stiffness. Nerissa (May) is open to the same objection. Medora, also Mr. May's, is pretty enough, but there should be at least as much again of it, to enable it to make head against flowers of older date. Ariel, light rose, had beautiful quality, purity, and regular marking in its favour, but the shape of petal could hardly be worse. The marginal colour of Miss Puxley was too faint; whilst what colour there was in Frances, another light rose, had arranged itself in stripes and bars, down the centre of the petal, instead of around the margin. Marion, heavy rose, was fiery and harsh in its colour, and sadly blotched at the back of the petal.

I have said enough to show we have had a very indifferent bloom, and I hope we have a large compensation in store in coming years. Certainly, despite the drawback of a most unpropitious season, floricultural enthusiasm is no whit abated, and I never knew so lively an interest exhibited in these flowers as during the present autumn. I shall be surprised indeed if the flowers now offered do not, next season, reward us for the disappointments of this. Of the host coming out, my favourites are, Exit, Christopher Sly, King John, Mrs Headly, Mrs. Hoyle, Mrs. Kelke, Prince Albert, Finis, Mrs. Keynes, Alice, and Lady Grenville.

We have to mourn the loss, by death, of several old cultivators, and to regret the retirement of others whose skill can never be surpassed; but, like men determined to win the top of the breach, I hope, as one falls out, two at least will press into his place, so that the addition in the number of the competitors to our annual exhibition, shall, year after year, exceed that commenced here. This is by no means so extravagant as at the first blush it may appear. It

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will chiefly depend that the requirements of the competition shall meet the circumstances of the cultivators. I believe there are not twenty collections in the kingdom calculated to produce *twelve* dissimilar blooms, year after year, though two hundred could readily produce *six*. Let our managers look to this, and let us see they do.

E. S. DODWELL.

TULIP CATALOGUES.

ALLOW me a space in your pages, to make a few remarks on this interesting subject, and I will begin with that of Mr. Groom, of Clapham Rise, near London, who is considered to have the largest collection in the neighbourhood. Taking the first class, that of roses, I find that Beterell's Brulante Eclatante still holds up to the mark of £5 5s., but though out for many years, it has not yet found its way, as a winning flower, in this part of the country, to any extent. Lac has been seen good, and from its purity and peculiarly brilliant colour, would be a favourite, if we could only possess it; but, from its want of vigour, it breeds but seldom, and therefore, is not likely to be in many collections. I am surprised to see the old Derbyshire impure varieties, such as Lady Crewe and Lord Hill, retained in a metropolitan list, and certainly blaming our inclination for impure flowers, comes with a bad grace from our southern friends, if Mr. Groom's list is to be indicative of southern taste. I see again, that there is Grand Rose Imperial, at 2s. 6d., whilst La Vandicken is marked at 7s. 6d. Having grown them both, and not finding any perceptible difference, and believing there is none, I do not see the good of retaining them under different names. Then there is Thackeray's Queen Catherine, a decidedly stained flower; and now I would suggest how advantageous,

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as well as interesting it would be, if dealers, in publishing their lists of tulips, would give the height, colour, whether light or dark, heavily or slightly feathered or flamed, tinged or not, creamy or otherwise, and whether pointed or not. The dealer who would do this, would deserve well of the tulip growers of England, and I doubt not his endeavours to impart instruction would be most thankfully appreciated. I find in this class, Aspasia, a first-row flamed rose. This, though nothing particular, is still an interesting variety. Lachesis is Triomphe Royale, or so near, that, as we say here, "it makes no matter." Then there is a great gem, Miss Eliza Seymour, figured at the fabulous price of *fifty guineas ! !* I know not what the *tulipomania* may be in the south, but if there was any one who would give such a price for a bulb here, a strait waistcoat would be immediately resorted to by his friends, and possibly, in the event of his will not being to the mind of his nearest relatives, such an apparent mad freak would be cited in strong confirmation of his insanity. In byblomens, I find several stained varieties offered for sale, and others which require much bleaching to get them right, Lewold, Louis XVI., Rowbotham's Incomparable, Belle Actrice, Camarine, &c. It is, however, in bizarres, that I am more particularly struck with the influx of new names (seedlings), and the large price affixed. For instance, there are the following at twenty-one guineas each :—Achilles, Duke of Newcastle, Duke of Wellington, Earl of Stamford, Lord Alfred Hervey, Lord Hardinge, Lord Raglan, Louis Napoleon, Mr. Frederick Perkins, and Orpheus; whilst Marquis of Bristol is figured at fifty-two guineas. Now, Mr. Editor, has Mr. Slater seen these flowers, or did you, when in London, at the National exhibition? has Mr. Glenny inspected them? or has any north countryman, who is a judge? It will probably never be my lot to see Mr. Groom's bed, but I, as well as hundreds of others in the same position, would be glad to hear what these flowers are

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like; whether they come up to the standard—whether they are similar in character to existing sorts—whether they are beats on the varieties they are most like—and whether, above all, they are worth the money. I know well many flowers are coming out in this county. Several have been broken quite in advance of others. I allude particularly to several of Mr. Slater's, but no such price has been put on them. I hope these few observations will elicit the information required, wich I am sure, will be highly gratifying to your tulip growing readers, and to none more so than your obedient servant,

A LANCASHIRE AMATEUR,

NOVELTIES.

WHITLAVIA GRANDIFLORA is a beautiful new annual, the flowers are bell-shaped and of a rich blue. A very attractive and desirable sort.

MRS. LENNOX appears to be one of the best scarlet variegated geraniums yet raised. The foliage is large, and each leaf surrounded with a belt of pure white. The flowers are scarlet, and though some other varieties are of better form, still the plant is a desirable acquisition.

SCARLET GERANIUM FLOWER OF THE DAY.—On the contrary, the flowers and truss of this fine sort are large and well formed. Its other characteristics are precisely similar to the variety already known as Flower of the Day.

MARQUIS OF CAMDEN (Ansell) is a fine and novel geranium. Lower petals rosy purple, upper rich dark purple, with a fine white centre; thus rendering it very attractive.

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EGONIA PRESTONIENSIS SUPERBA.—A very beautiful plant, of good habit. The flowers are a rich orange scarlet, highly fragrant, and produced in great abundance. A splendid plant for exhibition.

SALVIA PORPYRANTHA.—A beautiful new scarlet salvia, with small foliage. It will probably become a great favourite for bedding purposes.

RHODODENDRON PRINCE CAMILLE DE ROHAN is a new hardy variety, delicate flesh colour, marked with large dark red spots. The flowers are large, and produced in immense trusses. One of the finest in cultivation.

ADMIRAL DUNDAS STRAWBERRY is a seedling of Messrs. Myatt's, of Deptford; and though many well known varieties have been raised by Messrs. Myatt, this surpasses all in size and productiveness.

BARCHARD'S SEEDLING APPLE is highly spoken of. We have not seen it, but from the description, should suppose it to be somewhat like the Aromatic Pippin, or Pearson's Plate Apple.

BARRATT'S MAGNUM BONUM STRAWBERRY is even larger than the British Queen, of excellent flavour, and a great bearer.

EXTRACTS, HINTS, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

NORTH OF ENGLAND SEEDLING SOCIETY.

AT a meeting recently held at the house of Mr. John Brandwood, the Commercial Inn, Bolton, it was decided to establish forthwith a society designated as above, for the purpose of encouraging the raising of

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new varieties of flowers, and also to assume a censorship upon new varieties, come from what quarter they may.

With regard to the objects of the society, it may be remarked that the raising of new flowers is perhaps one of the most pleasing and interesting pursuits that can occupy the attention either of the amateur florist, or the professional gardener. Hitherto the north of England has been indebted mainly to the metropolis, or at least to residents in the south, for their new plants. It is true the climate of the north is not so favourable to the raising of new varieties, yet when we call to mind the great number of first-rate flowers (which might easily be enumerated) standing at the head of their class, raised in the uncongenial north, we need not despair, that, if proper incentives are held out, specimens of the highest character may be produced, which will vie with those raised in the more favoured south.

With respect to the censorship, which the society, by its judges, intends to assume, the necessity of such a step will at once be acknowledged, by those who refer to the many worthless varieties of flowers which have been imposed upon the public by interested, and, we think it not too much to say, unprincipled dealers. The system of playing into each other's hands, by granting *certificates of merit to each other's productions*, deserves universal exposure, and the severest reprobation. The society intends meeting this tricky system boldly, and will endeavour to prove itself the safeguard, and the powerful protector of the professional gardener, and the amateur florist. The promoters of the society are not far from the truth, when they say, that thousands have been completely victimized by this system of knavery, having to pay monstrous prices for their new plants, whilst, in the majority of cases, the purchasers have the mortification of finding them of the most contemptible character, illustrating, in their miserable development, the baseness of those who palmed them upon the public.

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To some extent, the society contemplates introducing other than floral specimens, viz. agricultural and the like, but it is thought that this portion of its design had best be postponed, in the hope that the prosperity of the society, in the departments mentioned, may enable it to extend its labours with every prospect of success.

R. DUNDERDALE, PRESIDENT.
P. CHARLTON, SECRETARY.

RULES OF THE SOCIETY.

1 That to constitute membership of this society, each individual shall pay an annual entrance fee of 5s. not later than the first Wednesday in March, each year.

2. That the committee meet on the first Wednesday of every month, at eight in the evening, at the house of Mr. John Brandwood, Commercial Inn, Bolton, where members are requested to send specimens of new flowers, which will be formally submitted to judges, whom the society will appoint.

3. That certificates of merit be awarded by the judges, at their monthly meetings, to any new variety of flower which they may conceive to be deserving of that distinction; but in no case shall certificates of merit be granted unless the flower possesses some peculiar excellence sufficient to distinguish it from others in the same class.

4. That the society shall hold three or more meetings in each year, at the Commercial Inn, Bolton, where the prizes will be awarded to the best specimens, subject to the usual arrangments made by the committee, of which due notice will be given to the members.

5. That certificates of merit shall be given by the society, through its judges, to any seedling of superior character, on the annual days of meeting, as well as at its monthly meetings as aforesaid.

6. That any person who may have raised a new seedling, and is desirous the society's judges should pronounce on its merits, may assemble the committee on any evening he thinks proper, provided he gives three or more days' notice to the president or secretary that such is his wish.

7. That special care shall be taken by the committee, that the judges selected shall be men of great experience, and possessing the highest character for integrity.

It is a trite and time honoured assertion, that in the multitude of councillors there is safety, and we

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shall be most happy to find that this is the case with the above society. We are always glad to hear, of the springing up of societies for the advancement of floriculture, and we trust that the one established under the presidency of our old friend Mr. Dunderdale, of Bolton, may be eminently successful. There is one thing, however, that strikes us, and which we think should be published in the prospectus, that is, by what system or rules they judge the flowers, submitted for their inspection? Will it be by those laid down by Mr. Glenny? Or will the usual system of judging which appears to still linger in the neighbourhood be continued. We have just been looking through the Blackburn tulip show, in our last number, and we find that prizes were awarded to Bienfait, Beauty, Lady Crewe, and Rose Unique; at Denton, we find Edgar, Bienfait, Lady Crewe, and Unique also placed; whilst at Bedford Leigh, Crown Prince, Lustre, Albion, Bienfait, Beauty, La Belle Narene, Sable Rex, Unique, Vesta, and other stained flowers gained prizes. From this, it appears that impure flowers are not only grown, but are also allowed to win in the neighbourhood. Now what we wish to know is, should a finely-marked seedling tulip be forwarded to the committee, combining good form and fine colour, would they, if it were stained in the same way as any of the sorts we have just named, (which from the circumstance of their winning must be appreciated) give it a certificate of any kind? We hope not; and if Mr. Dunderdale and the committee give their veto against impurity, they will, we are sure, effect a very beneficial reform. We do not exactly understand the paragraph where it is stated that there is a system of playing into each other's hands, by granting certificates of merit to each other's productions, &c. Should such be the case, the system is highly reprehensible; and how worthless things, now the properties of flowers are so well known, can get certificates, we do not understand. To avoid this, it would necessarily require that the Bolton judges

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should not grow florists' flowers, which would be highly inexpedient, for it might so happen that they, after awarding certificates to their neighbours, for seedlings which we will suppose deserved the distinction, had seedlings of their own, which they desired to submit to the same test. Now are we to suppose, if these judges are awarded certificates by those parties to whom they have previously granted a similar honour, that there is trickery and collusion amongst them? For the sake of the beauteous science that we so much love, let us hope that it is not so. We are aware that some flowers raised in the south, will not bloom satisfactorily in Lancashire, in the same way that many fine French roses will not expand freely in this country, but this does not necessarily imply, in either case, that the flowers are not so good as the characters given them when grown under favourable circumstances. If such is the fact, let us have a little charity towards each other's opinions; and let us, by kindly feelings, cement the floral bond which national exhibitions have of late so eminently tended to strengthen. We shall be glad to hear, as will also, we are sure, many of our readers, on what system the flowers are to be judged by the society; and we shall also be glad to insert reports of their meetings, deliberations, and awards, in our pages, should they deem it expedient to send them.

NOTES ON THE GENUS PENTSTEMON.

[We make no apology for extracting the following descriptive list, of a very popular and beautiful tribe of plants, from our excellent contemporary the *Florist.*]

There is nothing among hardy herbaceous plants that is more suitable or better adapted for beds or borders, nor anything that makes a better display of

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showy coloured flowers during summer and autumn, than many of the species of pentstemon. They are handsome flowering plants, with a good compact habit, and either for large or small gardens, where good herbaceous plants are at all esteemed, these should not be neglected. While the generality of this tribe are now past flowering for this season, and fast dying down, most of these are still wearing an aspect of summer, and are as fresh and gay as they have been for some months past. No plants are cultivated with greater facility than pentstemons in a warm light dry soil, which suits them best; many of them thrive well planted on artificial rockwork, more especially those of a more creeping habit. To have them to flower chiefly at the end of summer, and during autumn, pinch off all the tops of the young shoots in the early part of summer, which cause them to break back, strengthen the plants, and retard their flowering season until further on in the summer. The annexed list contains all the best kinds at present cultivated at Kew, and which, with a very few exceptions, are now (October 18) in full flower, and to all appearance will continue for some time to come:—

Pentstemon Elegans.—This is a very handsome flowering plant, of a neat habit; grows a foot and a half high. The flowers are of a light pinkish red.

P. Roseus.—A very pretty flowering kind, with a habit similar to elegans. It grows a foot to two feet high, and has flowers of a rosy red.

P. Pulchellus.—The aspect and habit of this is similar to the preceeding ones. It grows about two feet high, and has flowers of a bright rosy red.

P. Venustus.—A beautiful and very compact growing kind, attaining the height of a foot and a half. The flowers are of a rose colour, or bright purplish red.

P. Campanulatus.—This has a compact close habit; grows a foot and a half high. The flowers are bell-shaped, and of a purple red.

P. Atropurpureus.—Is a very showy flowering species; grows about two feet high. The flowers are of a bright purple red.

P. Clowesi.—A very elegant flowering kind, of somewhat straggling habit. It grows a foot and a half high; has large bright red flowers, with a white throat.

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P. Bucki—This is very similar to the last,—attains the same height, has larger foliage, and larger flowers, which are of a bright rosy red, with white inside.

P. Gentianoides.—Is one of the large flowering kinds; grows a foot or two high. The flowers are of a dark red, white inside.

P. G. var. Hartwegi.—This is a beautiful flowering variety. It grows about a foot and a half high, and has flowers of a bright red.

P. G. var. M'Eweni.—This has a close bushy habit; is an excellent border plant; grows a foot or more high. Has good moderate sized flowers, of a bright purple red, white within.

P. Hartwegi var. Verplanki.—A very showy flowering kind; grows a foot and a half high. Has very large flowers, which are of a bright rose colour, white inside.

P. H. var. Shepherdi.—Is one of the best of the tribe. It grows a foot and a half to two feet high; has large bright red flowers, white inside.

P. Albidus.—A very interesting species; grows a foot and a half high; has good moderate sized white flowers, which, with the other bright rich coloured kinds, form an admirable contrast.

P. Atrocæruleus.—A most beautiful flowering species; it attains the height of two or three feet, is an abundant bloomer. The flowers are of good moderate size, and of a bright purple blue, white inside.

P. Connatus.—A rather coarse-looking species, about a foot and a half high, with soft hairy leaves, and bell-shaped light purple flowers, white within. This is not usually a very free flowering species, but a useful border plant.

P. Nitidus.—A dwarf-growing species, about half a foot high, having rather pretty light purple flowers, which are chiefly produced in summer.

P. Procerus.—This species resembles the last, is a dwarf-growing plant, about six inches high, with lilac or pale purple flowers, which are produced in spring.

P. Argutus.—This is one of the best of the genus, but requires to be often propagated, as it is apt to soon dwindle away; it grows a foot or more high; the flowers are very pretty, and of a bluish purple colour.

P. Confertus.—An uninteresting species, about a foot high, with small, insignficant light flowers, tinged with purple.

P. Wrighti.—Is a very conspicuous-looking plant, about a foot and a half high, with large, smooth, and rather glaucous leaves, and pinkish red flowers.

P. Baccharifolius.—This is a very distinct species, of a sub-shrubby habit, a foot or more high; it has small leaves, and pinkish red flowers, which are in perfection in summer.

P. Pubescens.—A pubescent species, about a foot and a half high, with light purple flowers, in perfection during summer.

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P. Lævigatus.—An interesting species, a foot and a half high, bearing light purple flowers in spring.

P. Hirsutus.—This species grows from one to two feet high, has rather large leaves, and light purple flowers, in perfection during summer.

P. Diffusus.—This is an unattractive species, of a rather coarse habit; grows about a foot and a half high, and has small purplish red flowers.

J. HOULSTON.

THINNING ROSE TREES.

We have seen many instances of rose amateurs leaving too much wood on their trees, at the winter pruning, or rather the spring. Rose trees growing freely, must be pruned liberally, and the extent to which it must be carried, must be made to depend on the kind of rose, as well as the objects of the cultivator. Very strong growing roses, as standards, must in general have the grossest shoots pruned out. especially whilst they are young. Such as Triomphe de la Duchere, Coup d'Hebe, and Gen. Jacqueminot, may be quoted as examples. Those with very weak habit must be pruned just the reverse. As such, may be quoted Moss Celine, Crested Moss, Etendard de Marengo, and even such as the Geant des Batailles. But in all cases, all exhausted wood should be cut clean away. This kind of wood may be known by everybody, and it may be found in most roses at pruning time, being of a livid or yellowish cast, and is in the main, wood exhausted with previous blooming, and about to be superseded by a more healthy kind—a law to which nearly all roses are subject by nature. And here we may point to pruning as bearing on the production of blossoms at a particular period. Some desire to have the bulk of their roses in May, others in June, and others in July and August. Early pruning brings early roses, and *vice versa.* This maxim must be kept in view. Of course there are trifling exceptions, but this will suffice for

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general practice. But it becomes us here to guard against a sweeping application of this off-hand maxim, where there is a very choice and extensive collection; in such may be found roses of peculiar habit, which must be pruned with particular reference to that habit. For instance, such as Cloth of Gold, Blairii, No. 2, &c. Who would think of pruning these on the same principle as Rose du Roi, Souvenir de la Malmaison, or Paul Ricaut? But what I wish more particularly to point to here, is a mode of practice pursued by us, in order to obtain a first-rate bloom in July and August.

We do not prune such at all, until they begin to bud in March; and as soon as the buds have protruded, so as to show their green colour a little, we prune every shoot back to where the buds have not pushed, and no further. By the second week in April, they will have budded again, and now comes the thinning and final pruning. After a judicious thinning, the remaining shoots are once more shortened back to where they have scarcely budded, and it is the beginning of May before they fairly expand their buds. This practice, of course, detracts a little from their strengthh, for awhile, but having once begun to grow, and expand some foliage, we apply guano water liberally, which soon more than compensates. Moss roses, and the old cabbage, served thus, are still (August 10) in excellent bloom here; and as for the Geant des Batailles, Aime Vibert, Brennus, Admiral du Petit Thouars, and many others I could name, they have hitherto been all of a blaze, the admiration of all.

The clearing roses of decaying blossoms is, or ought to be a daily proceeding with the rose fancier. Not only respectability of appearance, but the vigour of the remaining blossoms require it.

Summer pruning rampant shoots is a business of importance; it is derogatory both of style and quality in the blossoms to suffer long barren shoots of ordinary kinds to overlap and choke the blossoms and the true

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bearing wood for the ensuing year. The finger and thumb should be at work, at least once a week, and indeed where the wood is very thick, some of the interior spray may be cut out.

Thinning out the blossoms too, with many kinds, is of much service; especially those perpetuals which produce a profusion,—and in order to obtain size which may astonish, such as Baronne Prevost, La Reine, Souvenir de la Malmaison, &c. may have a blossom bud occasionally nipped away, out of the truss, when they are being developed. We had Baronne Prevost, this year, nineteen inches in circumference. We had intended to say something about stocks, but we are reaching our limits. No manetti stocks for us,—the old dog rose we find the best; and as for pot roses, there can be little doubt, after all the pucker, that they are best on their own roots.

Scottish Gardener.

ON THE CHANGE OF COLOUR WHICH FLOWERS UNDERGO BY CULTURE.

CULTIVATED annuals present more promptly changes of shades of colour than shrubby species, for each year they are renewed through the medium of seeds. This phenomenon, nevertheless, is met with among biennials, shrubs, and even in ligneous species, but not so frequently in these last. I have had occasion to observe, within these few years, how much the types of the annuals from Chili, Texas, and California, have a tendency to produce varieties with white flowers, whether they enter into one or other of the three prismatic colours, red, yellow, and blue. I shall only instance such varieties as have been derived from species introduced into our culture within these few years. Thus then, the Clarkia pulchella and elegans, which have their flowers of a violet rose

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colour, have produced white and bright rose flowers; the Gilia capitata, blue and tricolor, the Leptosiphon androsaceus and densiflorus, with rose flowers, have displayed varieties of a pure white. The same has resulted with the Podolepis gracilis and chrysantha, of which the scales of the involuere are either rose or golden yellow. The Brachycoma hendifolia, originally from New Holland, with flowers of a bright blue, has produced white flowers, and many intermediate varieties. The Viscaria oculata, flowers of a rose violet, has given rapidly, in the second year of cultivation, flowers of a pure white, and a great number of intermediate varieties. The Nemophila insignis, flowers of a clear blue, displays, each year, white flowers, as likewise the Silene pendula, cultivated in our gardens on account of its numerous *violet rose* flowers. The Linnia violacea, of which the specific name indicates the colour, has produced on its part more than thirty varieties of different shades; as likewise the Salpiglossis, the Alstrœmeria, which, every year, presents us with novelties in this respect. I have remarked, this year, for the first time, that the beautiful rose flowers of the Centranthus macrosiphon have passed to white and flesh tinted; but what has most attracted my attention, is a bed of Escholtzia Californica, with flowers of a milk white! I have observed also many plants of the Tropæolum, under the name Germanicum, of which the flowers are a shade of yellow, almost white. It is well known how the Tropæolum has modified itself for some years back, and consequently it is rare to find the original type. The same obtains with many other genera. The Digitalis purpurea, or foxglove, furnishes us with a very striking example. But with regard to these last-mentioned, artificial fecundation has contributed materially to mystify the subject; the types have been abandoned for the sake of the varieties, or hybrids. I may add to the observations just made, that these transformations often take place the second or third year of cultivation. They are very

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remarkable, insomuch that the varieties of a white shade are always those which are produced first; the variegations take place afterwards. Also the flowers normally of a rose tint pass quickly to white; then follow the blue flowers, amongst which latter we rarely meet with varieties of a rose shade. Again, the yellow flowers are more tenacious, and that tenacity is in proportion to the intensity of the yellow itself. Amongst these last, I have only observed white varieties. I have never met with any in which the yellow has been effaced, to admit of the predominance of the red colour, in the case of orange flowers.

G. R. A.

MR. RIVERS'S NURSERY, SAWBRIDGEWORTH.

One of the most interesting features of this nursery is its orchard-houses, of which there are now no fewer than twenty-five. Mr. Rivers has found such contrivances so extremely useful, not only for the growth of small fruit trees in pots, but also for a variety of other purposes besides, that he has, during these last two or three years, been constantly adding to their number. His fruiting house, this year, has been, as it well deserved to be, the admiration of all who have seen it. It is span-roofed, seventy feet in length, and twenty feet in width, with boarded sides and ends, and fixed glass roof, and it has upwards of a hundred trees of peaches and nectarines, from four to six years old, in it, many of the later kinds being now (Sept. 30) literally laden with fruit. As an example of the way in which the trees have borne, we may mention that on one of them we counted between four and five dozen peaches. The effect of a whole house full of such fruit-bearing trees may therefore be more easily imagined than described.

The trees are all in thirteen-inch pots, and are set

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on beds of soil, the centre one being about six feet in width, and the two side ones each five feet in width. These beds contain about eighteen inches in depth of mould, which is kept out of the paths by brick edgings. The pots, which have several holes in the bottom, or at least have the hole there very much enlarged, are set on these beds, into which the roots are allowed to enter. To sustain a good sized peach tree in a pot, however (and some of them are quite four and five feet in height), something more is necessary than merely allowing its roots to go into the border; annually, in March, therefore, every tree has a top-dressing of some strong stimulant. Mr. Rivers has employed, with much success, stiff loam, mixed with horse-droppings, saturated with night-soil, exposed to the air two or three months, placed on the surface of the pots, previously stirring the soil with a pointed stick, and taking out a portion of it, two or three inches in depth. Liquid manure, not too strong, is also applied once a week, during the summer; weak guano water, one pound to thirty gallons, has been found as good as any. A good soaking of this, once a week, has been found preferable to using it more frequently. Under this kind of treatment, the trees are kept in the very best of health, and they bear, as has just been shown, enormous crops of fruit, and their being in pots which permit them to root into the beds, the control over them is perfect, for when any tree becomes at all what is termed pot proud, its luxuriance is easily checked by merely inclining it on one side sufficiently to break off a portion of the roots. At the end of October, when the trees are put to rest, the whole of them are root pruned, *i. e.*, all the roots which have entered the bed are cut off, and after two or three years the soil of the bed or border itself is removed two or three inches in depth, and filled up with a compost of burnt earth, manure, one-inch bones, and turfy loam, all very rough. During winter, the trees are kept as dry as possible, and sometimes, if the weather is excessively severe, dry hay or litter

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is laid on and around the pots. This, however, is seldom needed.

No fire heat is ever employed, indeed no means have been provided in the fruiting house for applying it, and yet, with the exception of the Stanwick nectarine, and one or two of the latest peaches, all have ripened most satisfactorily, the fruit—owing to the health of the trees and foliage, and the abundance of ventilation which is afforded—being large, juicy, highly coloured, and, as a matter of course, of extremely good flavour. Such as have not yet ripened, Mr. Rivers intends putting into another house, in which a little fire-heat will be applied, just to gently accelerate their maturity.

One of Mr. Rivers's orchard-houses, also a span-roofed one—instead of having boarded sides and ends, with means of giving plenty of air, for that is much insisted on in this kind of culture—has the sides, one a yew hedge, the other Siberian arborvitæ. It is twelve feet wide, three feet high at the sides, six feet six inches high in the centre, with a sunken path, two feet wide, one foot deep, and borders on each side, five feet wide. An improvement, however, on this, Mr. Rivers thinks, will be one of the following dimensions:—Twelve feet wide, four feet high at the sides, eight feet high in the centre, borders four feet eight inches wide, sunken path in centre two feet four inches wide, and eight or ten inches deep. This, with a well-clipped hedge of yew or Siberian arborvitæ on each side, will ripen such peaches as Royal George, Noblesse, and Grosse Mignonne, about a fortnight after their usual period of ripening, and give apricots, cherries, and plums (more particularly the late sorts, which shrivel on the trees), in the highest perfection. Owing to the constant percolation of air through the hedges, no injury ever occurs from ventilation (as is too often the case) being forgotten in hot weather; but with syringing and water, the trees are always in fine health. The situation for such houses should not be too much exposed in

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windy situations, for then too much air may perhaps be admitted for ripening fruit. Peaches and nectarines, however, appear to succeed perfectly in a house made of good deal boards, and the latter, well painted with Carson's anti-corrosion paint, will last good a long time. It has been found, however, that, in the case of *lean-to* houses, against a beech hedge, the cutting north-east winds which pass through the latter, in spring, are too much for the trees, and, therefore, the few earlier put up houses which Mr. Rivers has on this plan have had painted canvass put along their back walls, or hedges, half the height of the latter. This has been found to answer perfectly, and it may be worthy of mention, to show the effect good ventilation has in keeping off the mildew and red spider, that when the canvas covered all the back or hedge, these pests made their appearance; but as soon as half the canvas was removed, and air freely admitted, they disappeared.

As regards variety, Mr. Rivers has gathered together here all the sorts of peaches and nectarines, &c., which he can possibly get hold of, with a view to ascertain their comparative merits, and to prove their synonyms. He has raised several seedlings from the Stanwick nectarine, which are numbered one, two, three, and four. They have all borne fruit this year; in habit, leaves, and flowers, they are all exactly alike, but in fruit they differ. No. 3 has borne twelve fruit, equally as well flavoured as the Stanwick, and without crack or blemish. It is also said to ripen its fruit about fourteen days earlier than its parent, so that hopes may be entertained that in two or three generations, and by means of recrossing this fine nectarine, it may yet be made fit for our walls. The flavour of seedling No. 4 is delicious; but it is as late in ripening as the Stanwick. Among peaches, Scott's Early Red and George IV., both American varieties, are said to be of most excellent flavour.

Of young peach and nectarine, apricot, plum and cherry trees, in pots, suitable for bearing next year,

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there are several houses full here, as well as numbers set out in the open air, for want of sufficient accommodation in-doors. They are in eleven-inch pots, and exceedingly healthy.

Figs succeed perfectly in an orchard-house here, in which there is a brick Arnott stove; and Black Hamburgh grapes—not large bunches, but well coloured—are ripening well in a lean-to house, in which there is no fire-heat, but merely a glazed roof and wooden ends and back, the latter furnished with sliding ventilators, which are nearly constantly open.

We have only room to add that, in addition to their other advantages, Mr. Rivers has found orchard-houses to be extremely useful in the facility they give of retarding for some weeks peaches, nectarines, and apricots; so that Royal George peaches and Moor Park apricots may be eaten in perfection in October. The method by which this is effected is very simple. Towards the end of July, the trees should be gradually prepared for removal, by tilting up the pots on one side, so as to break off half the young roots; the pots must then be replaced, and suffered to rest a week or ten days, and then the other side should be tilted, so as to break off the remaining roots. The trees should then be moved to the north side of a wall or fence, in the open air, guarding carefully against snails, which often injure apricots; they may remain there till the first or second week in September, and then be removed to the orchard-house, to ripen their fruit. Apricots retarded in this way are delicious, and so are Coe's Golden Drop plums. They should be netted, to keep wasps from them, and allowed to hang on the trees till they have begun to shrivel.—Eaten then, they will be found to be admirable. In a season like the present, when here, as elsewhere, there is very little fruit out of doors, orchard-houses must, therefore, be regarded as a great acquisition, and we are certainly greatly indebted to Mr. Rivers for not only contriving them, but also for showing us how much may be effected by means of them. Their

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borders, in addition to affording support to the trees, might be applied to many useful purposes. At Sawbridgeworth, a little spawn has been put into those in the fruiting house, and they are now producing a good crop of mushrooms.

Gardeners' Chronicle.

HOLCUS SACCHARATUS.—This new grass yields a good supply of very sweet juice, in the way of the sugar cane. It appears likely, from the experiments now making, that it will become a highly profitable plant to cultivate. It grows tall, something like the Indian corn, and will require the same cultivation.

THE NEW CHINESE POTATO (*Dioscorea batatas*) is another plant likely to figure prominently in warm countries, such as the south of France, and probably in Devonshire. It is as mealy as the best potato, and contains equally nutritious properties, besides being of very agreeable flavour.

COUNTESS OF ROSSLYN HOLLYHOCK, a beautiful purple, shaded with lilac, was awarded a first-class certificate, at the Caledonian Horticultural Society's exhibition, on the 9th of September last. It was raised by Mr. Laing. At the same time, Messrs. Downie & Laird gained a similar prize, for *Isabella*, a beautifully smooth pale primrose.

A CURIOUS FLOWER POT.—When the interior fittings of the old church of Bedminster were being removed, prior to its demolition, it became a question how they were to dispose of the little old font which it contained, but which, not being suitable for the new edifice, was no longer required. Properly speaking it belonged to the contractor, but it seemed a pity it should be broken up, after having stood in the sacred edifice for centuries. As the best and most innocent way of preserving it, therefore, Mr. Phippen had it

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placed in the midst of his flower garden, the basin filled with earth, and a geranium planted in it, where it now flourishes, the blooming tenant of that hollow in which it is ascertained from the parish books no less than *seventeen thousand babies* have been baptised! Here it stands—an object worthy the contemplation of Malthus or Miss Martineau. The font itself, though not inelegant, is a plain little freestone work.

I venture to send you a description of a cabbage I have grown this year, from French seed. The name is *Chou pointu de Winnigstadt*. Leaves glaucous, like those of broccoli; stem dwarf; cabbage pointed, compact, tender, and good. Sown end of March, and in June. I have never found a more beautiful vegetable, and it is really all heart. Not meeting with it in the seedsmen's lists, I mention it to you, and shall be glad to hear if it is much known.—F. MANNING.—[We have seen it for sale in continental lists, but believe it is not much cultivated in England yet.—ED.]

FLOWERS, ETC. RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST REPORT.

The dahlia *Lord Nelson*, sent by Mr. R. Gregson, was much crushed, at the post office, so that we could come to no fair opinion of its merits.

We have also to acknowledge the receipt of two blooms of *Knight of St. George*. It will, probably, when strongly grown, come deeper. The face was nicely arranged, and the colour in the way of Sir F. Bathurst.

PANSY.—INQUIRER, *Nottingham*.—Your yellow-belted flower is very clear and distinct in its marking. Somewhat similar to existing varieties, still it is pretty, and worth naming.

E. H.—The verbena (received November 4) is of good form, pinkish lilac, with large yellow centre. It is almost too late to give an opinion, but it promises well. We should like to see it again, in the proper season.

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QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Will you, or any of your correspondents, inform us, through the medium of the *Midland Florist*, which is the best celery, white and red, and the least liable to pipe and run to seed? We got a packet of seed of Haines's Mammoth (white), two years ago, and almost every plant raised from it piped, both years. We should like to know if it has done so with other persons. By naming the best white and red celery, for size and quality combined, you will greatly oblige

THE MEMBERS OF THE EAST MOOR HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

CLIMBING ROSES.—A COTTAGER, *Bradford.*—*Amie Vibert* is a very showy white rose, blooming in large clusters. The foliage is rich, and though not so rampant as some, still it is a valuable rose for covering an east wall. The boursault rose, called *Amadis*, is crimson, and grows rapidly; whilst *Celina*, a strong-growing Bourbon variety, is a very showy pink rose. Price, 1s. each.

PANSIES.—A Bradford Pansy Fancier may get the varieties he names of Mr. Charles Turner, Royal Nursery, Slough; or of Mr. John Holland, Bradshaw Gardens, Middleton, near Manchester.

FLORAL EXHIBITIONS.

TULIP SHOW.

At the Fox and Grapes Inn, East Moor, near Wakefield, May 29.

Pans.—1. Platoff, Polyphemus, Washington, Baguet, Lady Crewe, and Triomphe Royale, J. Steel. 2. Polyphemus, Dover's Napoleon, Lawrence's Friend, Midland Beauty, Lady Crewe, and Aglaia, S. Hartley. 3. Dover's Napoleon, Charles X. Washington, Lady Flora Hastings, Mary Lamb, and Lady Stanley, J. Gill.

Feathered Bizarres.—1. Dover's Napoleon, J. Gill. 2. Charles X., J. Gill. 3. Magnum Bonum, S. Hartley. 4. Waterloo, J. Steel.

Flamed Bizarres.—1. Polyphemus, S. Hartley. 2. Abercromby, J. Steel. 3. Catafalque, T. Gill. 4. Napoleon, S. Hartley.

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Feathered Byblœmens.—1. La Belle Narene, S. Hartley. 2. Baguet, S. Hartley. 3. Seedling, S. Hartley. 4. Bienfait, J. Steel.

Flamed Byblœmens.—1. Maid of Orleans, S. Hartley. 2. Britannia, J. Gill. 3. Washington, T. Gill. 4. Imperatrix, S. Hartley.

Feathered Roses.—1. Gibbons's Venus, J. Gill. 2. Lady Crewe, J. Steel. 3. Triomphe Royale, J. Steel. 4. Lady Middleton, J. Gill.

Flamed Roses.—1. Triomphe Royale, J. Steel. 2. Miss Catherine, J. Gill. 3. Aglaia, J. Steel. 4. Sycumbus, S. Hartley.

Bizarre Breeders.—1. Polyphemus, S. Hartley. 2. Seedling, S. Hartley. 3. Seedling, J. Gill. 4. Seedling, J. Steel.

Byblœmen Breeders.—1. Countess of Harrington, T. Gill. 2. Grace Darling, J. Gill. 3. Sable Monarch, J. Gill. 4. Lord Vernon, J. Gill.

Rose Breeders.—1. Seedling No. 1, J. Gill. 2. Seedling No. 2, J. Gill. 3. Lady Flora Hastings, J. Gill. 4. Seedling No. 3, J. Gill.

Selfs.—1. Hopwood's Cotherstone, J. Gill. 2. Min d'Or, J. Gill. 3. Mirabel, T. Gill. 4. Golden Hero, J. Gill.

CHESHIRE, LANCASHIRE, AND NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE PINK MEETINGS.

At Mr. R. Johnson's, Wharf Inn, Sutton Mills, Macclesfield, Cheshire, July 1.

Judges.—Mr. D. Brown, Newcastle-under-Lyme; Mr. S. Etchells, Stockport; and Mr. Turner, Ashton.

The siver cup was awarded to Mr. James Knott, for a stand of three flowers, one in each class, viz., Bradshaw's Greensides, Etchell's Susanna, and Norris's Blackeyed Susan.

Purple-laced.—1. Jones's Huntsman, R. Hope. 2. Taylor's Mango, J. Knott. 3. Bradshaw's Greensides, J. Knott. 4. Simmonite's Coronation, S. Raynor. 5. Pearson's Professor, J. Knott. 6. Seedling, S. Raynor. 7. Seedling, R. Hope. 8. Faulkner's Duke of St. Albans, R. Hope.

Red-laced.—1. Etchell's Susanna, J. Lancashire. 2. Lee's Joseph Sturge, R. Hope. 3 Etchell's Susanna, R. Hope. 4. Partington's Mary Ellen, S. Raynor. 5. Parker's Dr. Hepworth, J. Knott. 6. Moorley's Dorothy, J. Hambleton. 7. Pimblott's Jane, R. Hope. 8. Greaves's Stockwell, R. Hope.

Black and White.—1. Norris's Blackeyed Susan, J. Knott. 2. Kay's Mary, R. Hope. 3. Norris's Blackeyed Susan, J. Knott. 4. Wigley's Snowball, J. Knott. 5. Bossom's Fair Flora, S. Raynor. 6. Gregson's Lady Boldhaughton, J. Knott.

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7. Beauty of Home, S. Raynor. 8. Fairbrother's Beauty of Blackburn, J. Lancashire. Best Seedling.—S. Raynor.

Second Meeting, at Mrs. Chadwick's, Waggon and Horses, Gorton, near Manchester, July 8.

The silver cup was awarded to Mr. S. Raynor, for a stand of three flowers, one in each class, viz., Jones's Huntsman, Lee's Joseph Sturge, and Norris's Blackeyed Susan.

Purple-laced.—1. Jones's Huntsman, R. Hope. 2. Jones's Huntsman, S. Gregory. 3. Taylor's Mango, J. Knott. 4. Seedling, J. Knott. 5. Bradshaw's Greensides, J. Knott. 6. Aukland's Mary, J. Lancashire. 7. Teebay's Black Boy, R. Hope. 8. Buckley's Glory, J. Lancashire.

Red-laced.—1. Lee's Joseph Sturge, J. Lancashire. 2. Lee's Joseph Sturge, J. Knott. 3. Etchell's Susanna, J. Knott. 4. Greaves's Stockwell, R. Hope. 5. Rawsthorn's Bright Star, R. Hope. 6. Brundret's Sir. William, J. Lancashire. 7. Seedling, S. Raynor. 8. Richard Cobden, J. Knott.

Black and White.—1. Norris's Blackeyed Susan, R. Hope. 2. Wigley's Snowball, J. Lancashire. 3. Norris's Blackeyed Susan, C. Bradshaw. 4. Beauty of Home, J. Knott, 5. O'Brien's Virgin Queen, S. Raynor. 6. Fairbrother's Beauty of Blackburn, J. Lancashire. 7. Kay's Mary, R. Hope. 8. Rawsthorn's Superior, J. Lancashire.

Third Meeting, at Mr. W. Duncalf's, Gardeners' Arms, Smallthorn, Staffordshire, July 15,

Judges.—Mr. David Brown and Mr. Joseph Clegg.

The silver cup was awarded to Mr. S. Raynor, for a stand of three flowers, one in each class, viz., Jones's Huntsman, Lee's Joseph Sturge, and Kay's Mary.

Purple-laced.—1. Jones's Huntsman, J. Knott. 2. Taylor's Mango, J. Knott. 3. Jones's Huntsman, J. Knott. 4. Howard's Beauty of Rochdale, S. Raynor. 5. Buckley's Glory, J. Lancashire. 6. Raynor's Flying Dutchman, R. Hope. 7. Duke of St. Albans, J. Hambleton. 8. Aukland's Mary, J. Lancashire.

Red-laced.—1. Lee's Joseph Sturge, S. Raynor. 2. Lee's Joseph Sturge, J. Lancashire. 3. Etchell's Susanna, T. Boot. 4. Richard Cobden, J. Knott. 5. Parker's Dr. Hepworth, C. Bradshaw. 6. Partington's Mary Ellen, S. Raynor. 7. Moorley's Dorothy, T. Boot. 8. Brundret's Sir William, S. Raynor.

Black and White.—1. Norris's Blackeyed Susan, C. Bradshaw. 2. Norris's Blackeyed Susan, J. Hambleton. 3. Burgin's Miss Jessop, J. Lancashire. 4. Rawsthorne's Superior, J. Lancashire. 5. Wigley's Snowball, J. Knott. 6. Fairbrother's Beauty of Blackburn, J. Lancashire. 7. Kay's Mary, W. Griffith. 8. Gregson's Lady Boldhaughton, S. Raynor.

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PINK SHOW.

At Mr. G. Wild's, Grapes Inn, Trippet-lane, Sheffield, June 26.

Young Growers' Kettle.—Sturge, W. Mason
Extra Prize, a splendid China Tea Service, with Metal Tea and Coffee Pots.—Coronation, W. Powell.
Society's Cup.—Coronation, W. Powell.

Purple-laced.
Premier.—Huntsman, F. Benn.
1 Mango, W. Powell
2 Coronation, A. Knutt
3 Duke of Devonshire, ditto
4 Huntsman, F. Benn
5 Greensides, G. Brassington
6 Professor, S Pryor
7 Dr. Halley, S. Pryor
8 Elis, W, Powell
9 Solan, T. Oxley

Red-laced.
Premier.—Sturge, C. Jackson.
1 Sturge, W. Powell
2 Louis Tasso, W. Mason
3 Dr. Hepworth, H, Barker
4 Susanna, S. Pryor
5 Daniel O'Rourke, T. Oxley
6 Lady Antrobus, G. Brassington
7 Pride, F. Benn
8 Willmer's Laura, H. Hydes
9 Dorothy, A. Knutt

Black and White.
Premier.—Blackeyed Susan, G. Brassington.
1 Lady Frost, H. Hydes
2 Miss Jessop, S. Pryor
3 Blackeyed Susan, G. Brassington
4 Beauty of Home, ditto
5 Kay's Mary, ditto
6 Snowball, C. Jackson
7 Alice Hawthorn, C. Eaton
8 Beauty of Blackburn, A. Knutt
9 Beauty of Clayton, G. Brassington

Seedlings.
1 North Star, A. Knutt
2 Delight, ditto
3 Napier, S Pryor
4 Floral Beauty, A. Knutt

PINK SHOW.

At Mr. T. Oxley's, Three Stags' Heads, Pinstone-street, Sheffield, July 3.

Young Growers' Kettle.—1. Huntsman, Wild. 2. Lord Valentia, Alsebrook.
China Tea Services.—1. Huntsman, H. Bateman. 2. Mango, W. Benn.
Society's Cup.—Mango, G. Brassington.

Purple-laced.
Premier.—Mango, H. Hydes.
1 Huntsman, A. Wild
2 Coronation, S. Pryor
3 Merry Monarch, W. Benn
4 Greensides, W. Mason
5 Aukland Mary, S. Pryor
6 Pilgrim, ditto
7 Lord Valentia, W. Alsebrook
8 Suwarrow, F. Benn
9 Professor, W. Alsebrook
10 Ayrdale Beauty, W. Powell

Red-laced.
Premier.—Sturge, A. Knutt.
1 Sturge, P. Moore
2 Cant's Criterion, H. Hydes
3 Beauty of Deighton, G. Brassington
4 Adam Smith, S. Pryor
5 Louis Tasso, W. Green
6 Susanna, H. Barker
7 Pride, F. Benn
8 Dr. Hepworth, F. Benn
9 Mrs. Slater, W. Powell
10 Lady Cobbett, C. Heaton

Black and White.
Premier.—Lady Frost, H. Hydes.
1 Lady Frost, W. Green
2 Miss Jessop, H. Barker
3 Beauty of Home, A. Knutt
4 Virgin Queen, H. Hydes
5 Blackeyed Susan, W. Benn
6 Beauty of Blackburn, J. Powell
7 Mary, W. Alsebrook
8 Mary Ann, W. Green
9 Beauty of Clayton-le-Moor, Barker
10 Snowball, W. Benn

Seedlings.
1 Mary Ann, A. Knutt
2 Gem, ditto
3 Sturge's Companion, G. Brassington
4 Tom, F. Powell
5 North Star, A. Knutt

PINK SHOW.

At Mr. J. Martin's, Red Lion Inn, Coalpit-lane, Sheffield.

Society's Cup.—Mango, W. Hobson.
Young Growers' Kettle.—Adam Smith, A. Hydes.

Purple-laced.
1 Mango, G. Hoyland
2 Huntsman, W. Hobson
3 Professor, F. Reynolds
4 Ayrdale Beauty, ditto
5 Greensides, M. Smith

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6 Black Boy, W. Hobson
7 Suwarrow, M. Smith
8 Buckley's Glory, W. Hobson
9 Miss Auckland, F. Reynolds

Red-laced.

1 Unknown, F. Reynolds
2 Sturge, ditto
3 Beauty of Deighton, G. Hoyland
4 Pride, M. Smith
5 Sir William, F. Reynolds
6 Dr. Hepworth, G. Hoyland
7 Lady Antrobus, W. Hobson
8 Susanna, W. Hobson
9 Bright Straw, ditto

Plain.

1 Blackeyed Susan, J. Hague
2 Kay's Mary, F. Reynolds
3 Lady Frost, G. Hoyland
4 Miss Jessop, W. Hobson
5 Beauty of Home, M. Smith
6 Virgin Queen, W. Hobson
7 Snowball, M. Jackson
8 Blackeyed Susan, J. Hague
9 Kay's Mary, A. Hydes

PINK SHOW.

At Mr. J. Wragg's, Crabtree Inn, Scotland-street, Sheffield.

Splendid Tea Service.—Huntsman, G. Brassington.
Young Growers' Kettle.—1. Mango, W. Hobson. 2. Huntsman, W. Mason.
Society's Cup.—Mango, W. Hobson.

Purple-laced.

Premier.—Mango, W. Hobson.
1 Huntsman, W. Mason
2 Mango, A. Knutt
3 Sambo, ditto
4 Coronation, S. Pryor
5 Ayrdale Beauty, W. Mason
6 Miss Auckland, G. Brassington
7 Thunderer, W. Hobson
8 Greensides, W. Alsebrook

Red-laced.

Premier, Sturge, W. Benn.
1 Sturge, G. Brassington
2 Oxford Rival, W. Green
3 Susanna, W. Hobson
4 Beaughty of Deighton, H. Barker
5 Pride, F. Benn
6 Lady Cobbett, A. Knutt
7 Surplus, J. Hague
8 Dr. Hepworth, A. Knutt

Black and White.

Premier.—Miss Jessop, S. Pryor
1 Broom Girl, A. Knutt
2 Blackeyed Susan, F. Benn
3 Lady Frost, A. Knutt
4 Miss Jessop, F. Benn
5 Beauty of Home, J. Hague
6 Virgin Queen, W. Alsebrook
7 Marian, W. Green
8 Kay's Mary, W. Hobson

Seedlings.

1 Topsy, A. Knutt
2 Anne Maria, ditto
3 Anne, G. Brassington

OLDHAM FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Second Meeting for the season, at the Town Hall, Oldham, July 13.

PINKS.

Purple-laced.

1 Huntsman, J. Ashton
2 Beauty of Rochdale, J. Cheetham, Esq.
3 Duke of St. Albans, J. Smithies
4 Mango, J. Boardman
5 Seedling, J. Smithies
6 Seedling, J. Boardman
7 Greensides, J. Worrall
8 Professor, T. Williamson

Red-laced.

1 Joseph Sturge, J. Ashton
2 Susanna, J. Smithies
3 Dr. Hepworth, ditto
4 Sir William, J. Ashton
5 Laura, J. Schofield
6 Rachel, W. Butterworth

Black and White.

1 Blackeyed Susan, J. Ashton
2 Miss Jessop, ditto
3 Seedling, ditto
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Virgin Queen, ditto
6 Beauty of Home, ditto
7 Snowball, ditto
8 Seedling, J. Smithies

RANUNCULUSES.

Light Selfs.

1 Unknown, G. Mellor, Esq.
2 Unknown, J. Schofield
3 Unknown, J. Fairclough

Dark Selfs.

1 Naxara, J. Fairclough
2 Passe me non, J. Fairclough
3 Venus, W. Butterworth

Striped.

1 Orissus, W. Butterworth
2 Unknown, J. Fairclough
3 Tartola, J. Taylor

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Edged White Ground.
1 Unknown, G. Mellor, Esq.
2 Unknown, J. Whitehead
3 Metilla, J. Smithies

Spotted.
1 Unknown, J. Lees, Esq.
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Unknown, J. Fairclough

Dark Grey, or Purple-shaded.
1 Veriat, J. Taylor
2 Violet Force, J. Fairclou
3 Quintin, J. Whitehead

Crimson and Rose.
1 Bishop Heber, J. Jackson
2 Tartola, J. Morton
3 Unknown, J. Lees, Esq.

Edged Yellow Ground.
1 Unknown, J. Whitehead
2 California, ditto
3 Unknown, ditto

Yellow, or Orange.
1 Golconda, J. Fairclough
2 Brabanca, ditto
3 Seedling, J. Taylor

Third Meeting.

CARNATIONS.

Scarlet Bizarres.
1 Admiral Curzon, J. Taylor
2 Brierley's Music, J. Galloway
3 Eloile de Venus, J. Cheetham, Esq.
4 Holland's Mr. Ainsworth, J. Ashton
5 Slater's Robin Hood, T. Williamson
6 Burne's Lord Lewisham, J. Taylor

Crimson Bizarres.
1 Ely's Lord Milton, J. Ashton
2 Haines's Black Diamond, ditto
3 Ely's Duke of Bedford, J. Crompton
4 Cartwright's Rainbow, J. Mills
5 Parker's Capt Franklin, J. Schofield
6 Ely's Major Goldsworthy, J. Ashton

Purple Flakes.
1 Holland's Earl of Wilton, S. Brierley
2 Lee's Napoleon, W. Macdonald
3 Turner's Princess Charlotte, ditto
4 Brabbin's Squire Meynell, J. Mills
5 Barringer's Earl Spencer, J. Galloway
6 Haslam's Lady Peel, J. Mills

Scarlet Flakes.
1 Addenbrook's Lydia, J. Whitehead
2 Wilson's William IV., T. Walmsley
3 Leighton's Prince George, M'Donald
4 Hardwick's Firebrand, ditto
5 Dalton's Friend, J. Whitehead
6 Bottomley's Beauty of Brighouse, J. Schofield

Rose Flakes.
1 May's Ariel, J. Taylor
2 Ely's Lady Ely, J. Schofield
3 Ely's Lovely Ann, J. Whitehead
4 Ely's Lady Gardiner, J. Taylor
5 Barrenger's Apollo, J. Mills
6 Bramma's Uncle Tom, J. Whitehead

PICOTEES.

Heavy-edged Purple.
1 Dodwell's Alfred, J. Taylor
2 Mitchell's Nulli Secundus, M'Donald
3 Norman's Lord Nelson, J. Schofield
4 Wood's Princess Alice, ditto

Light-edged Purple.
1 Holliday's Delicata, J. Taylor
2 Matthews's Enchantress, T. Walmsley
3 Prince Arthur, ditto
4 Hollyoake's Duke of Rutland, J. Schofield

Heavy-edged Red.
1 Harrison's Picnic, J. Taylor
2 Norman's Mrs. Norman, ditto
3 Brook's Duchess of Cambridge, T. Walmsley
4 Hepworth's King John, J. Mills

Light-edged Red.
1 Marris's Prince of Wales, J. Schofield
2 Ely's Mrs. Horner, J. Whitehead
3 Flycatcher, T. Williamson
4 Yorkshire Hero, J. Smithies

DAHLIAS.

Dark Marone, Purple, or Puce.
1 Beauty of Versailles, J. Lees, Esq.
2 Summit of Perfection, J. Cheetham
3 Seedling, T. Walmsley
4 Lord Mayor, ditto
5 Lord Raglan, J. Lees, Esq.

Scarlet, or Red.
1 Cardinal Ferretti, T. Walmsley
2 King, J. Lees, Esq.
3 Sir R. Peel, John Lees, Esq.
4 Shylock, J. Cheetham, Esq.
5 Gauntlet, J. Lees, Esq.

Crimson, or Ruby.
1 Sir F. Bathurst, J. Cheetham, Esq.
2 King of Dahlias, T. Walmsley
3 Beeswing, J. Schofield
4 Captain Warner, T. Walmsley
5 Triumphant, John Lees, Esq.

Rose, Pink, or Lilac.
1 Elizabeth, T. Walmsley
2 Queen of Lilacs, J. Galloway
3 Bragg's Admiral, T. Walmsley
4 Fearless, ditto
5 Sir F. Thesiger, J. Galloway

Yellow
1 Louisa Glenny, J. Cheetham, Esq.
2 King of Yellows, S. Brierley
3 Gold Cup, John Lees, Esq.
4 Eldorado, T. Walmsley
5 Unknown, J. Cheetham, Esq.

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Orange, Buff, or Bronze.

1 Duke of Wellington, J. Cheetham
2 Sir John Franklin, J. Galloway
3 Roundhead, J. Cheetham, Esq.
4 General Fauchier, J. Lees, Esq.
5 Earl of Clarendon, J. Cheetham, Esq,

White, or Blush.

1 Marchioness of Cornwallis, Walmsley
2 Antagonist, J. Schofield
3 Mr. Bacon, C. Robinson
4 White Standard, J. Lees, Esq.
5 Duchess, J. Cheetham, Esq.

Tipped, or Edged.

1 Princess Radziville, J. Cheetham, Esq.
2 Beauty of Kingston, J. Lees, Esq.
3 Queen of England, J. Cheetham, Esq.
4 Amazon, J. Lees, Esq.
5 Marquis of Worcester, J. Cheetham

Fancy Dahlias.

1 Floral Beauty, G. Hiley
2 Mr. Hansard, John Lees, Esq.
3 Unknown, J. Cheetham, Esq.
4 Discount, J. Schofield
5 Master George Clayton, ditto

CARNATION SHOW,

At Ounsdale, August 7.

Best Stand of Six Blooms.—Lord Rancliffe, Sarah Payne, Firebrand, Beauty of Woodhouse, and Ariel, G. Addis.

Six Picotees.—Elizabeth, Portia, Prince of Wales, Juliet, Bridesmaid, and Mrs. Barnard, G. Addis.

Best Bloom.—Lady Ely, G. Addis.

1 Admiral Curzon, J. Elliott
2 Admiral Curzon, J. Guest
3 Prince of Wales G. Addis
4 Curzon, J. Guest
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Prince Albert, G. Addis

1 Lord Milton, J. Elliott
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Duke of Bedford, G. Addis
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Queen Victoria, J. Guest

1 Addenbrook's Lydia, J. Elliott
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Firebrand, G. Addis
4 Willmer's Hero J. Elliott
5 Firebrand, G. Addis
6 Firebrand, J. Elliott

1 May's Ariel, J. Elliott
2 Seedling 62, ditto
3 Ariel, G. Addis

Best Seedling.—No. 22, P.F., J. Elliott.

4 Seedling 62, J. Elliott
5 Seedling 12, ditto
6 Ariel, G. Addis

1 Seedling 2, J. Elliott
2 Squire Trow, J. Guest
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Squire Meynell, ditto
5 Squire Trow, ditto
6 Squire Trow, G. Addis

1 Robinson's Elizabeth, G. Addis
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Prince of Wales, ditto
4 Youell's Gem, J. Elliott
5 Elizabeth, J. Guest
6 Read's Jeanette, J. Elliott

1 May's Portia, G. Addis
2 Ophelia, J. Guest
3 Alfred, J. Elliott
4 Nulli Secundus, J. Guest
5 May's Portia, J. Addis
6 May's Juliet, J. Elliott

CHESTERFIELD AND SCARSDALE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At Chesterfield, August 8.

CARNATIONS.

Premier Prize.—Madame Sontag, W. M. Hewitt.

First Pan of Twelve—Admiral Curzon, Flora's Garland, Queen Victoria, Premier, Admiral Curzon, Firebrand, Lorenzo, Premier, Madame Sontag, Falconbridge, Cradley Pet, and Beauty of Woodhouse, W. M. Hewitt.

First Pan of Six.—Black Diamond, Falconbridge, Flora's Garland, Cradley Pet, Premier, and Glory, C. Aukland.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Prince Albert, C. Aukland
2 Ditto, ditto

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Glory, C. Aukland
2 Queen Victoria, W. M Hewitt
3 Glory, C. Aukland

Pink Bizarres.

1 Sarah Payne, C. Aukland
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Justice Shallow, W. M. Hewitt
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto

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Rose Flakes.

1 Lovely Ann, C. Aukland
2 Lovely Ann, W. M. Hewitt
3 Madame Sontag, ditto

Purple Flakes.

1 Premier, W. M. Hewitt
2 Squire Trow, ditto
3 Premier, ditto

PICOTEES.

Premier Prize.—Duke of Rutland, C. Aukland.

First Pan of Twelve.—Mrs. Barnard, Alfred, Miss Holbeck, Prince Arthur, Ophelia, Princess Helena, Queen Victoria, Countess, Alfred, Countess Howe, unknown (heavy rose), W. M. Hewitt.

First Pan of Six.—Prince Arthur, Alfred, Miss Rosa, Mrs. Norman, Mrs. Barnard, and Duke of Rutland, C. Aukland.

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Prince Arthur, C. Aukland
2 Countess, W. M. Hewitt
3 Ditto, ditto

Light-edged Purple.

1 Ganymede, W. M. Hewitt
2 Jenny Lind, C. Aukland
3 Duke of Rutland, W, M. Hewitt

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Mrs. Norman, C. Aukland
2 Prince of Wales, W. M. Hewitt
3 King James, ditto

Light edged Red.

1 Gem, W. M. Hewitt
2 Miss Holbeck, ditto
3 Gem. C. Aukland

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Queen Victoria, W. M. Hewitt
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto

Light-edged Rose.

1 Mrs. Barnard, C. Aukland
2 Countess, W. M. Hewitt
3 Mrs. Barnard, C. Aukland

PANSIES.

Pans of Twelve.—1. National, Royal Visit, Elegant, Duke of Perth, Miss Talbot, Yellow Standard, Fair Flora, Father Gavazzi, Rhoda, France Cycole, Jubilee, and Sir J. Cathcart, W Slack, 2. Sir J. Paxton, Miriam, Sir J. Cathcart, Sovereign, Duke of Perth, Blanche, Pandora, Flower of the Day, Laneii, Mrs. Beck, Robert Burns, and Miss Talbot, W. M. Hewitt. 3 Aurora. Pandora, France Cycole, Royal Visit, Sultan, Duke of Perth, Sir J. Cathcart, Lady Emily, Duke of Sutherland, Orange Superb, Miss Talbot, and Flower of the Day, C. Aukland.

Pans of Six.—1. Mrs. Beck, Duke of Perth, Negro Boy, Mr. Beck, Polyphemus, and Clara, J. Hopkinson. 2. National, Yellow Standard, Androcles, Beacon, Duke of Perth, and Royal Visit, J. Charlesworth 3. Polyphemus, Mrs. Beck, Maid of Athens, Duke of Perth, Sultan, and France Cycole, C. Haslam.

Yellow Ground.

1 Pandora, W. M. Hewitt
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Diadem, W. Slack

White Ground.

1 Royal Visit, E. Morley
2 Royal Visit, W. Slack
3 Miriam, W. M. Hewitt

Yellow Selfs.

1 Yellow Standard, E. Morley
2 Yellow Standard, W. Slack
3 Yellow Standard, E. Morley

White Selfs.

1 White Flag, E. Morley
2 Blanche, W. M. Hewitt
3 Mountain of Snow, W. Morley

Dark Selfs.

1 Duke of Perth, E. Morley
2 Flower of the Day, W. M. Hewitt
3 Duke of Perth, ditto

ROSES.

Pans of Six.—1. Devoniensis, Henri Plantier, Dame de Poitier, Geant des Batailles, Bremins, and Charles Souchet, W. Froggatt, gardener to Sir H. Hunloke, Bart. 2. Madame Laffay, Dr. Marx, Marshal Soult, Blush Moss, and two unknown, Thornton, gardener to R. Barrow, Esq. 3. G. Holmes.

Third Exhibition, at the Town Hall, Chesterfield.

DAHLIAS.

Pans of Twelve.—1. Fearless, Bishop of Hereford, Bob, Sir F. Thesiger, R. Bruce, Mrs. Hansard, Caroline, Whittington, Gem of the Grove, Duke of Wellington, Malvina, and George Glenny, W. Slack. 2. Sir R. Peel, Sir F. Thesiger, General Faucher, Caroline, Dazzle, Eldorado, George Villiers, R. Bruce, Claudia, Snowflake, Sir R. Whittington, and Crocus, J. Charlesworth. 3. Sir R. Peel, Sir C. Napier, King, Mrs. Hansard, Beauty of the Grove, Blanchefleur, Bob, R. Bruce, George Glenny, Sir R. Whittington, and Princess Radziville, F. Bower.

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Pans of Six.—1. Sir F. Bathurst, Duke of Wellington, Admiral, Sir F. Thesiger, Mrs. C. Bacon, and Sir R. Peel, C. Haslam. 2. E. Holland.

White.
1 Caroline, W. Slack
2 Queen of Sheba, Barlow

Scarlet.
1 Nil desperandum, Eggleston
2 Dazzle, J. Charlesworth
3 Dazzle, W. Slack
4 Dazzle, J. Charlesworth

Yellow.
1 Fanny Keynes, W. Slack
2 Louisa Glenny, ditto
3 George Glenny, ditto
4 Eldorado, C. Haslam

Crimson.
1 Bathurst, C. Haslam
2 R. Cobden, Eggleston
3 Beauty of Versailles, J. Charlesworth
4 Dahlia King, E. Morley

Orange.
1 Duke, W. Slack
2 General Faucher, E. Morley
3 Duke, ditto
4 General Faucher, J. Charlesworth

Dark.
1 Gem of the Grove, W. Slack
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Black Prince, Barlow

Rose, or Lilac.
1 Mr. Seldon, Barlow
2 Fearless, Eggleston
3 Fearless, W. Slack
4 Fame, C. Haslam

Fancy.
1 Malvina, W. Doe
2 Lizzie, W. Slack
3 Barmaid, E. Morley
4 Radziville, W. Slack

PANSIES.

Pans of Twelve.—Pandora, Miss Talbot, Great Western, Sutton, Royal Visit, Flower of the Day, Fair Flora, Gavazzi, Cathcart, National, Mr. Thomson, and Lady Emily, W. Slack. 2. Royat Visit, Cathcart, Miss Talbot, Duke of Sutherland, Mr Thomson, Flower of the Day, Sovereign, Juventa, Miss Jane, Pandora, Miriam, and Duke of Perth, W. M. Hewitt.

Pans of Six.—1. Queen of England, Yellow Standard, Lucy Neal, Diadem, Pandora, and Royal Visit, J. Charlesworth. 2 Pandora, France Cycole, Cathcart, Duke of Sutherland, Maid of Athens, and Aurora, C. Aukland. 3. Mr. Beck, Duke of Perth, Mrs. Beck, Typhosa, Yellow Standard, and Negro Boy, Hopkinson.

White Ground.
1 Royal Visit, C. Aukland
2 Miss Talbot, W. Slack
3 Royal Visit, ditto

Yellow Ground.
1 Pandora, W. M. Hewitt
2 Pandora, C. Aukland
3 Sir Joseph Paxton, W. M. Hewitt

Yellow Selfs.
1 Sovereign, W. M. Hewitt
2 Sovereign, W. M. Hewitt
3 Ditto, ditto

White Selfs.
1 Blanche, W. M. Hewitt
3 Ditto, ditto
3 Fair Flora, W. Slack

Dark Selfs.
1 Duke of Sutherland, W. M. Hewitt
2 Duke of Perth, C. Aukland
3 Flower of the Day, W M. Hewitt

HOLLYHOCKS.

Pans of Six.—1. Sulphur Queen, Meteor, Queen of the Valley, Pourpre de Tyre, Comet, and Walden Gem, C. Aukland. 2. Aurantia Superba, Black Prince, Yellow Model, Comet, Pourpre de Tyre, and Meteor, F. Bower. 3. Comet, Queen of Denmark, Meteor, Pourpre de Tyre, Black Prince, and Elegans, C. Haslam.

ROSES.

Pans of Six.—1. Laffay, Madame Desprez, Cramoise Superieure, and three others, Thornton, gardener to R. Barrow, Esq. 2. G. Holmes, gardener to J. G. Cottingham, Esq. 3. Laffay, Taglioni, Geant des Batailles, Devoniensis, Louis Philippe, Madame Desprez, W. Froggatt, gardener to Sir H. Hunloke.

LEEDS CENTRAL FLORAL SOCIETY.

At Mr. J. Bramma's, Nag's Head Inn, Tuesday, August 15.

CARNATIONS.

Pans of Seven Blooms.—1. Curzon, Captain Franklin, Ivanhoe, Constellation, Neherwood's Companion, Alfred, and Picnic, E. Mitchell. 2. Curzon, Milton,

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Wilson's William IV., Netherwood's Companion, Lady Ely, Mrs. Norman, and Alfred, E. Schofield, Wortley. 3. Curzon, Milton, Firebrand, Squire Meynell, Bramma's Uncle Tom, Mrs. Norman, and Alfred, I. W. Bowers.

Premium Blooms.—1. Curzon, E. Mitchell. 2. Firebrand, I. W. Bowers.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Curzon, I. Boshell
2 Curzon, W. Gray
3 Ditto, ditto
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Curzon, E. Mitchell

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Milton, W. Gray
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Milton, E. Schofield
4 Milton, I. Bowers
5 Milton, I. Boshell
6 President, W. Gray

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Sir Joseph Paxton, W. Grey
2 Wilson's William IV., E. Schofield
3 Ivanhoe, E. Mitchell
4 Wilson's William IV., W. Gray
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Ivanhoe, I. Boshell

Rose Flakes.

1 Rose Helen, I. Bowers
2 Lovely Ann, ditto
3 Bramma's Uncle Tom, ditto
4 Lady Mary, W. Gray
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Rose Helen, I. Boshell

Purple Flakes.

1 Mango, W. Gray
2 Earl Spencer, ditto
3 Earl Spencer, I. Bowers
4 Earl Spencer, W. Gray
5 Earl Spencer, I. Boshell
6 Earl Spencer, E. Mitchell

PICOTEES.

Scarlet.

1 Mrs. Norman, E. Schofield
2 Prince of Wales, I. Fryer
3 Picnic, E. Mitchell
4 Prince of Wales, I. Fryer
5 Picnic, I. Boshell
6 Ditto, ditto

Purple.

1 Alfred, E. Schofield
2 Ditto. ditto
3 Alfred, W. Gray
4 Alfred, E. Schofield
5 Ditto, ditto'
6 Gatliff's Regina, ditto

Tuesday, September 12.

DAHLIAS.

Judges.—Messrs. Ratcliffe, Coxon, and Clayton.

Six Dissimilar Blooms.—1. General Faucher, Queen of Beauty, Duke of Wellington. George Glenny, Eldorado, and Madame Gaubert, E. Schofield. 2. Queen of Whites, Mr. Selden, Beauty of Versailles, Fearless, Red Gauntlet, and Lady of the Lake, I. Boshell. 3. Sir R. Cobden, Una, General Faucher, Nil desperandum, Sir F. Bathurst, and Duke of Wellington, I. Cliffe.

Dark and Purple.

1 Mr. Selden, I. Boshell
2 Admiral Stopford, E Schofield
3 Beauty of Versailles, I. Boshell
4 Beauty of Versailles, I. Musgrave
5 Sir R. Whittington, E. Schofield
6 Sir F. Bathurst, I. Musgrave

Crimson and Scarlet.

1 Beeswing, E. Schofield
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Cardinal Ferretti, ditto
4 King of Dahlias, I. Musgrave
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Red Gauntlet, E. Schofield

Tips and Fancies.

1 Lord Nelson, E. Schofield
2 Ditto, ditto
3 Princess Radziville, I. Fryer
4 Duke of Wellington, I. Cliffe
5 Duke of Wellington, I. Boshell
6 Mrs. Bacon, ditto

Orange and Bronze.

1 Duke of Wellington, I. Cliffe
2 Duke of Wellington, E. Mitchell
3 General Faucher, E. Schofield
4 General Faucher, E. Schofield
5 Duke of Wellington, ditto
6 Sir R. Peel, I. Boshell

White and Blush.

1 Queen of Whites, I. Boshell
2 Una, I. Cliffe
3 Queen of Whites, I. Boshell
4 Queen of Whites, I. Musgrave
5 Marchioness of Cornwallis, I. Fryer
6 Agnes, I. Boshell

Yellow and Buff

1 I. F. yer
2 Eldorado, E. Schofield
3 Lady Cullum, I. Musgrave
4 Ditto, ditto
5 Mrs Seldon, I. Fryer
6 Ditto, ditto

Lilac and Rose.

1 Rose of England, E. Schofield
2 Fearless, I. Boshell
3 Queen of Lilacs, E. Schofield
4 Fearless, I. Boshell
5 Ditto, ditto
6 Queen of Lilacs, I. Fryer

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NORTHERN COUNTIES CARNATION AND PICOTEE SOCIETY.

The first exhibition of this Society was held at the Botanic Gardens, Manchester, on Wednesday, August 16. The judges were Mr. J. Merryweather, York; J. Cheetham, Rochdale, Lancashire; and J. Sidley, Godley, Cheshire.

A silver cup, value five guineas, for the best twenty-four dissimilar varieties (twelve carnations and twelve picotees), was won by Mr John Holland, Middleton, with Earl of Wilton, Uncle Tom, Admiral Napier, Poor Tom, Dart, Admiral Curzon, Firebrand, Lovely Ann, Constellation, Cradley Pet, Captain Franklin, Mango, Bellona, Mary Helen, Alfred, Lavinia, Duchess of Cambridge, Haidee, Hogarth, Mrs, Norman, James II., Lord Nelson, Venus, and Miss Holland (seedling).

Premier.—Admiral Curzon, T. Bower.

Scarlet Bizarres.

1 Admiral Curzon, J. Whitehead
2 Lord Lewisham, J. Gill
3 Mr. Ainsworth(Holland), Whitehead
4 Ringleader, T Bower
5 Music, R. I. Kaye
6 Van Ban, A. Knutt
7 Sir R Peel, S. Brierley
8 Prince of Wales, C. Lee

Crimson Bizarres.

1 Lord Milton, C. Lee
2 William Caxton, J. Whitehead
3 Captain Franklin, J. Jackson
4 Lord Goderich, J. Gill
5 Vivid, J. Jackson
6 Paul Pry, J. Holland
7 Rainbow (Car wright), J. Whitehead
8 George IV., Schofield & Son

Scarlet Flakes.

1 Firebrand, J. Holland
2 Ivanhoe (Chadwick), R. I. Kaye
3 Magnet (Kaye), C. Lee
4 Splendour (Kaye), J. Gill
5 York and Lancaster(Kaye), R.I.Kaye
6 Dart (Jackson), S. Brierley
7 Marquis of Granby, R. I. Kaye
8 Jenny Lind, Merryweather

Rose Flakes.

1 Duchess of Devonshire, (Fletcher) I. O. Openshaw
2 Lovely Ann, R. I. Kaye
3 Uncle Tom (Bramma), J. Cawthorne
4 Lady of the Manor, J Jackson
5 Lady Ely, R. I. Kaye
6 Seedling, I. O. Openshaw
7 Constellation (Baildon), J. Holland
8 Ariel, R. Dixon

Purple Flakes.

1 Earl Spencer. C. Lee
2 Miss Thornton, J. Jackson
3 Squire Trow, J Whitehead
4 Beauty of Woodhouse, T. Bower
5 Seedling, ditto
6 Mayor of Oldham, R. I. Kaye
7 Mr. Jepson, J. Jackson
8 Conspicua, J. Holland

PICOTEES.

Premier.—Prince of Wales (Marris), J. Schofield & Son.

Heavy-edged Purple.

1 Lord Nelson, J. Holland
2 Alfred, ditto
3 Seedling, I. O. Openshaw
4 Seedling, A. Knutt
5 Countess, J. Henderson
6 Robert Burns, W. Gray
7 Queen (Kay), I. O. Openshaw
8 Mary Helen, R Hull

Light-edged Purple.

1 Seedling, Schofield & Son
2 Delicata, R. W. Foster
3 Bridesmaid, ditto
4 Ophelia, J Gill
5 Seedling, J. Holland
6 Enchantress, T. Williamson
7 Lady H. Moore, A. Knutt
8 Juliet, R. I. Kaye

Heavy-edged Red.

1 Prince of Wales, Schofield & Son
2 Picnic (Harrison), J. Whitehead
3 Mrs. Norman, Schofield & Son
4 Pearl (Kaye), C. Lee
5 King John, I. O. Openshaw
6 King James, W Peacock
7 Elizabeth, J. Jackson
8 Sebastian, R. W. Foster

Light-edged Red.

1 Lavinia, J. Holland
Gem, I. O. Openshaw
3 Delectus, R. W. Foster
4 Prince of Wales, J. Gill
5 Hogarth, J. Cawthorn
6 Eva, Schofield & Son
7 Flycatcher, T. Williamson
8 Mary (Dodwell), Schofield & Son

Heavy-edged Rose.

1 Venus, J. Holland
2 Rosalind, J. Whitehead
3 Helen (May), J. Holland
4 Unexpected, ditto
5 Queen Victoria (Green), J. Henderson
6 Julia, J. Holland
7 Jeanette, ditto
8 Ann (Hudson), ditto

Light-edged Rose.

1 Mrs. Barnard, Schofield & Son
2 Calliope, J. Whitehead
3 Miss Rosa, A. Knutt
4 Unknown, J. Henderson
5 Lady Alice Peel. J. Gill
6 Grace Darling, Schofield & Son

Yellow.

1 Conrad, J. Holland
2 L'Amiable, ditto
3 Prince Alfred, ditto
4 Guernsey Woman, ditto
5 Duchess of Marlborough, ditto
6 La Jeunesse, ditto

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INDEX.

PAGE.

American plants, exhibition of, at the Royal Botanic Gardens .. 214
Waterer on 245
Abies bracteata 48
Annuals, a few worth inquiring for 58
Antirrhinums, wintering 118
Apples, Lord Suffield, 330; Barchard's Seedling 380
of the midland counties 107, 131
storing 217
Apricots on a north wall 28
Apricot, the Kaisha 48
Auricula, propagation of the 342
Begonia prestoniensis superba 380
Berberis Darwinii, Neubertii, 331; Bealii, Japonica .. 125
Blight 93
Borders, hints on preparing for bedding out plants 307
Broccoli, the Emperor 47
Cabbage, May's Paragon, 111; Chou pointu de Winnigstadt .. 397
Calceolarias, shrubby, ericoides, 331; Purity, Crimson King, Golden Chain 332
Calendar of operations, for January, 30; Feb., 64; March, 97; April, 130; May 161
Camellia Archduchesse Marie 138
Carnation and picotee bloom of 1854, the 374
the, and their period of flowering .. 77
Carnation, markings of the, a question for disqualification .. 65
what is the correct marking of a bizarre 35
Celery, Laing's Mammoth 47
Cemetery plants 24
Ceterach maranta 209
Change of colour which flowers undergo by culture, on the .. 389
Chinese primrose, Magnum Bonum 111
Chiswick show, the first for 1854 189
Chrysanthemum, Annie Henderson 112
the 146
Cineraria, cultivation of the 343
Clematis, Helene, Sophie, bicolor monstrosa 136
Cockroaches 117
Convallaria majalis variegata 46
Cupressus Lambertiana, 57; thujæfolia 331
Currants, Versaillaise, Belle de St. Gilles 330

Digitized by Google

PAGE.
Cyclamen macrophyllum 45
Dahlias, in 1853, successful fancy 9
King of Yellows, 83; Baron Alderson, Nigger, Cossack, Omar pacha, Miss Frampton 328
sent out in 1853, random notes on the 54
Daphne atropurpurea 331
Delphiniums, Beauty of Charonne, pulchrum, 46, 241; Belladonna 242
Desfontanea spinosa 208
Dianthus, Millerii, 135, 301; (Barbatus) Criterion, Grandis, 207; Ajax 301
Dictamnus giganteus 208
Dodecatheon elegans striata 208
Editor's record—Holland's Mr. Ainsworth carnation, Bertha light rose picotee, Conqueror cucumber 276
Effects of the frost in the neighbourhood of Beeston, Notts. .. 187
Ericaceæ, hardy 49
Escholtzia tenuifolia 240
Evergreens, effects of the winter on 83
in Buckinghamshire, effects of the late severe frosts on 122
Floral exhibitions—
Ancient Society of York Florists, tulips 285
At the Botanic Gardens, Manchester, tulips, ranunculuses, pinks 31
At the Old Oak, Wolverhampton, carnations, picotees, &c. .. 32
At the Red Lion Inn, Newcastle-under-Lyme, pinks, roses .. 324
Auricula show 193
Burton on-Trent Floral and Horticultural Society, dahlias .. 34
Carnation show 34, 356, 404
Cheshire, Lancashire, and North Staffordshire pink meetings.. 399
Chesterfield and Scarsdale Horticultural Society, pansies, pinks, ranunculuses, roses, 352; carnations, picotees, roses, pansies, 404; dahlias, &c. 405
Eccles tulip show.. 254
Great South Lancashire tulip society 350
Halifax auricula show 194
Halifax tulip show 320
Hammersmith Pansy Society 225
Hunslet Floral Society, tulips 291
Huddersfield Pansy Society 256
John Lowe's tulip meeting 285
Lancaster tulip show 112
Leeds Central Floral Society, carnations and picotees, 406; dahlias 407
Leicester Society of Amateur Florists, tulips, 289; pinks, roses, ranunculuses, 353; carnations and picotees .. 32, 354
Levenshulme tulip show 291
Liverpool tulip show 289
Manchester and South Lancashire Tulip Society .. 113, 286
National Carnation and Picotee Society .. 113, 259
National tulip show 113, 222
Northampton and Northamptonshire Floral and Horticultural Society, tulips, 194; carnations and picotees 355
Northern Counties Carnation and Picotee Society.. 408
Nottingham Horticultural Society 288
Oldham Floral and Horticultural Society, pinks, ranunculuses, roses, 65, 402; carnations, picotees, pansies, dahlias, 66, 403; tulips 321

Digitized by Google

Floral Exhibitions— PAGE.
Patricroft tulip show 317
Pink show 292, 323, 324, 401, 402
Richard Prescott's tulip meeting 257
Royal South London Floricultural Society 216
South Lancashire pink show 98
South London Amateur Florists' Society, auriculas, pansies, 193; tulips 224
Tulip show 226, 254, 255, 256, 258, 290, 317, 318, 319, 321, 322, 323, 350, 351, 398
York Horticultural Society, tulips 318
Floral thieves 213
Flower pot, a curious 396
Flowers and plants, jottings on 99, 132, 273
Fraudulent exhibiting 181
French Bouquets 336
Fruits, a chapter on 12
Fuchsia serratifolia 93
Fumigator, Geach's self-acting 95
Gladioli, M. Blouet, Oscar, brenchleyensis 81
raising from seed 59
Geranium, Marquis of Camden 379
scarlet, Flower of the Day 379
scarlet variegated. Mrs. Lennox 379
Geraniums, horseshoe-leaf, Criterion, Rose d'Amour .. 208
Golden rules for gardeners 280, 356
Gooseberry show 310
"weighing-in" at a 91
Gooseberries, notes on seedling 344
Growing crops, effects of house sewage on 187
Hawthorn, the single and double 141
Holchus saccharatus 396
Hollyhocks, Chater's Mont Blanc, Bircham's Sentinel, Roake's Hon. Mrs. Ashley, Bragg's A. 1, 82; Drummond's Sir I. Brooke, Wood's Mrs. Wood, Golden Ball, Charles Kean, Purple Perfection, 302; Hon. Mrs. Ashley, Lemonade, Omar Pacha, Walden Rival, Unique, Solfaterre, Sir Chas. Napier, Princess Alice, Izaak Walton, Lilac Model, Mrs. Parsons, Argo, Standard, 329: Countess of Rosslyn 396
Horticultural Society of London 155
Hyacinths, descriptive list of 166
Hydrangea Hortensis flore pleno 153
Ipswich cucumber standard 314
Juniperus Sholi 331
Kilmarnock weeping willow 312
Landscape gardening, lessons on 282
Leeks, large 59
Letosiphon luteum 48
Lilium colchicum 135
Linaria, vulgaris, peloria 46
Mildew on the vine, peach, and potato, cause of 103
Morœa bicolor 136
Mr. Rivers's nursery, Sawbridgeworth 391
Myrtle, a new 24
National carnation show at Derby, the 289
memoranda on the 293
National Floricultural Society, awards of the .. 148, 154, 243
National tulip show, schedule of the 170

Digitized by Google

PAGE.
National tulip show, the 143, 195
New plants 185
Northern Carnation and Picotee Society 126
North of England Seedling Society 380
Nottingham arboretum exhibitions, the 278
Nut, Cosford 330
Obituary 127, 347
Opinions on flowers, &c. .. 138, 178, 209, 242, 276, 303, 397
Ornamental planting for small gardens 204
Orobus vernus flore pleno 136
Oxalis elegans 82
Pæonies, Reine des Francois, General Bertrand, 45; arborea, Germanica, 136; (albiflora) festiva maxima .. 208
seedling 310
Pansy, Father Gavazzi 45
the 37
Papaver splendissima 46
Paulonica imperialis 331
Pears, Beurre Clairgeau, Duchesse de Brabant 330
hardiness of new 158
Peas, Daniel O'Rourke, 47; Page's Prodigy 219
Pelargoniums 339
Pentstemon, notes on the genus 384
Themesterii 46
Phlox, culture and propagation of the 311
Phloxes, Miss Graham, Abdel Meschid Khan, Hebe, 242; General Lamoriciere, Tricolor, Messina, Foudroyant, Reve d'Amour, Madame Coislin 300
Pink and picotee, on hybridizing the 362
Pink, culture of the 313
on the 6
the 52, 303
Pinks, 231: Buckley's Glory, 45; New Criterion 302
Plum, the Fonthill.. 125
Podocarpus nubigena, chilina 125
Polyanthuses, rival.. .. .. .. 142, 169
Pomological Society, the 325
Potato disease, a cure for the, "Hudson's Ventilating Plan" 86, 105
another remedy for the 90
the 58, 121
Potatoes free from disease, how to obtain.. 188
in hillocks, planting 121
on seedling 3
Potato, the new Chinese 396
Potentilla Mauvieri.. 208
Propagation 19, 108
Provoking to thought 163

Queries—

PAGE. PAGE.
Alpines .. .. answered, 221
Best treatise on laying out pleasure grounds, &c. 29 — 29
Climbing roses .. .. .. — 398
Collodion .. .. .. — 130
Cow for cultivating an orchard .. .. — 253
[illegible]thus .. .. .. — 161
[illegible]biting—peculiar cases .. .. — 159, 224
[illegible]e Kidney potato .. .. — 349
[illegible]nsias .. .. .. — 129

Digitized by Google

Queries—	PAGE.	PAGE.
Gladiolus M. Blouet		answered, 161
Glass for a greenhouse	.. 284	— 284
Gooseberries for an orchard cultivated with the spade		— 253
Greenhouse stages		— 160
Hardy evergreens		— 222
Hollyhocks		— 160
Mr. Roake's seedlings ..	..	— 349
six good, to begin with..	..	— 316
Hybridizing tulips	.. 251	— 251
Labels	..	— 129
Liquid manure	..	— 252
Pansies	..	— 252
Pansy seed	.. 283	— 284
Pears	..	— 348
Pelargoniums, six fine new ..	..	— 348
Permanent pasture	..	— 129
Pinks		— 129, 253
Plants to cover a wall	..	— 222
Plums	..	— 316
profitable	..	— 252
Polyphemus tulip	..	— 129
Pompon chrysanthemums ..	..	— 222
Potato disease	..	— 252
twelve of the best and newest	..	— 348
Preparing land	..	— 160
Propagating pit	..	— 160, 349
Rhododendrons, hybridizing ..	..	— 161
Roses, grafting	.. 63	— 63
Sweetwilliams	.. 29	— 29
Trees for a cemetery	..	— 316
Tulips	..	— 128, 253
disqualification of ..	..	— 251
—increase	.. 252	— 252
stained	..	— 316
to save seed from ..	.. 347	— 347
Trout pear	..	— 160
Vines, propagating	..	— 161
Wireworms	..	— 222
Reviews—		
Allison's History of Europe	.. ..	96
Florist, Fruitist, and Garden Miscellany	60, 96, 127, 184,	249
Gardeners' and Naturalists' Almanack, for 1854	.. ..	29
Gardeners' Record	..62, 95, 181,	281
Glenny's Quarterly Review	.. ..	281
Horticultural Journal	.. ..	186
Journal of the Horticultural Society of London	.. ..	61
National Garden Almanack, and Horticultural Trade Directory		62
Rendle's Price Current, and Garden Directory, for 1854	..	63
Scottish Gardener	..	60, 249
Southern Florist and Horticultural Record	..	61, 97
Rhododendron Javanicum	.. ..	60
Rhododendrons, 8; Prince Camille de Rohan	.. ..	380
Rhubarb, Salt's Crimson Perfection ..	..	47, 242
Rose, a new climbing	.. ..	332
Roses in pots, a nice way of budding ..	.. ..	26
originated on the Continent, list of..	.. ..	137
new	..	38, 357

Digitized by Google

PAGE.
Roses of 1854 333
Williams's Evergreen Climbing, Adelaide Bougere, Reveil, Francois Henricq 332
Rose trees, the pruning of 248
thinning 357
Rotation of crops not necessary with onions and carrots .. 59
Salvia porpyrantha 360
Seakale pots, uses to which they may be applied in summer .. 120
Seedlings, the importance of good 175
Seeds, on preserving from birds 114
Skimmia japonica 124
"Something new" 154
Splendid trees at Dropmore 124
Spring of 1854, the.. 368
Stauntonia latifolia.. 44
Strawberries, Meudon, 111; Scarlet Nonpareil, 209; Admiral Dundas, Barratt's Magnum Bonum 360
Sweetwilliams, Mr. Hunt's, ... 241
Tobacco plant, the 305
Tray vegetables, standard rules for judging 84
Tree, something like a 123
Tulip catalogues 377
reminiscences 296, 326
Tulips, a descriptive catalogue of .. .. ..
at Felton Mills, an hour amongst the .. 227, 268
criticism on Mr. Harrison's notes of 360
destruction of 173, 211, 237
early 191
gossip about 176
hybridizing 313
notes of new 16
not much known in the midlands, on 15
observations on the method of growing 231
on the synonymes of 22, 43
rose 57
sporting of, from seed 372
which are the best varieties of, to cross with each other .. 363
Tulip show at Derby arboretum, the 248
at Lancaster 94
Vegetable, a new 119
Vegetables, a chapter on 40, 74
Vegetable world in the arctic regions, the 343
Verbenas, President, Rouge et Noir, Annie Laurie, 82; Charlemagne, 208; Sir Charles Napier, 221; Andover, Evening Star, 241; Scarlet King, Caliban, Forget-me-not, Madame Lamoriciere, Sarah, Annie Laurie, Mrs. D. Tyson, 289; Bridesmaid, Rouge et Noir, La Fraischeur, Madame Smidth, Rougiere, Madame Geoffry, Mrs. F. Coley, Delight .. 300
Villa and suburban gardening.. 341
Village horticultural societies 189
Wellingtonea gigantea 125
Whitlavia grandiflora 379
Window gardening.. 115

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